







Class F 532  
Book . P 2 H 6

























13

871-7  
44

HISTORY  
OF  
Parke and Vermillion Counties  
Indiana

With Historical Sketches of Representative Citizens and  
Genealogical Records of Many of the Old Families

---

ILLUSTRATED



1913  
B. F. BOWEN & COMPANY  
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

F532  
.P2 H6

DEDICATION.

This Work is respectfully dedicated to

THE PIONEERS,

long since departed. May the memory of those who laid down their burdens  
by the wayside ever be fragrant as the breath of summer  
flowers, for their toils and sacrifices have made  
Parke and Vermillion counties a garden  
of sunshine and delights.

256773

18



## PREFACE

All life and achievement is evolution; present wisdom comes from past experience, and present commercial prosperity has come only from past exertion and suffering. The deeds and motives of the men who have gone before have been instrumental in shaping the destinies of later communities and states. The development of a new country was at once a task and a privilege. It required great courage, sacrifice and privation. Compare the present conditions of the people of Parke and Vermillion counties, Indiana, with what they were one hundred years ago. From a trackless wilderness and virgin land, it has come to be a center of prosperity and civilization, with millions of wealth, systems of railways, grand educational institutions, splendid industries and immense agricultural and mineral productions. Can any thinking person be insensible to the fascination of the study which discloses the aspirations and efforts of the early pioneers who so strongly laid the foundation upon which has been reared the magnificent prosperity of later days? To perpetuate the story of these people and to trace and record the social, political and industrial progress of the community from its first inception is the function of the local historian. A sincere purpose to preserve facts and personal memoirs that are deserving of perpetuation, and which unite the present to the past, is the motive of the present publication. The work has been in the hands of able writers, who have, after much patient study and research, produced here the most complete biographical memoirs of Parke and Vermillion counties ever offered to the public. A specially valuable and interesting department is that devoted to the sketches of representative citizens of this county whose records deserve preservation because of their worth, effort and accomplishment. The publishers desire to extend their thanks to the gentlemen who have so faithfully labored to this end. Thanks are also due to the citizens of Parke and Vermillion counties for the uniform kindness with which they have regarded this undertaking and for their many services rendered in the gaining of necessary information.

In placing the "History of Parke and Vermillion Counties, Indiana," before the citizens, the publishers can conscientiously claim that they have carried out the plan as outlined in the prospectus. Every biographical sketch in the work has been submitted to the party interested, for correction, and therefore any error of fact, if there be any, is solely due to the person for whom the sketch was prepared. Confident that our efforts to please will fully meet the approbation of the public, we are,

Respectfully,

THE PUBLISHERS.





# CONTENTS

---

## PARKE COUNTY.

CHAPTER I—EARLY INDIANA HISTORY.....	26
Father Marquette—The Illinois Indians—Voyage of Joliet—Fernando de Soto and His Cavaliers—Settlement of Spanish in Florida—Retracing of the Steps of Early Explorers—Reaches Wisconsin—The Portage—Meeting of the Indians—Kaskaskia Discovered—LaSalle's Explorations—Father Hennepin—Building of Fort Miamis—Termination of War with England—The Northwest Territory—Act of Congress Making a Division Including Indiana, May 7, 1780.	
CHAPTER II—INDIAN OCCUPANCY AND HARRISON'S TRAIL.....	46
The Various Indian Tribes—Delawares—Pottawatomies—Miamiis—Description of Tribes and the Country—A Transformation—Geology of Parke County—Harrison's Trail.	
CHAPTER III—PIONEER SETTLEMENT OF PARKE COUNTY.....	54
An Early-day Description of the County—Concerning the First Settler—Settlement of James Doty—Those Who Came in 1822—Later Settlements—New Discovery—Character of the Pioneers.	
CHAPTER IV—ORGANIZATION AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT.....	60
Act of Organization of the County—County-seat Locating Committee—Rivalry for Seat of Justice—Temporary County Seats—County Government—Agents Sell Town Lots—Various Court Houses and Jails—Erection of Present County Buildings—Contents of Box in Corner-stone—Finances—Assessed Valuation by Townships—The Asylum for the Poor—Early Court Indictments.	
CHAPTER V—COUNTY AND OTHER OFFICIALS.....	67
State Representatives—Clerks—Sheriffs—Recorders—Auditors—Treasurers—Coroners—Assessors—Surveyors—Judges—Common Pleas—Judges Probate—Judges—Present Bar of Parke County—Court Officers in 1912.	
CHAPTER VI—MILITARY HISTORY OF PARKE COUNTY.....	72
Causes of the Civil War—Lincoln's First Call for Men—First Enrollment at Rockville—List of All Companies and Regiments from Parke County—Hundred-day Men and Veterans—Cavalry—Artillery—Infantry—McCune Cadets—National Guard—An Old Mexican War Soldier—The War with Spain.	
CHAPTER VII—PARKE COUNTY'S RELIGIOUS SOCIETIES.....	87
Protestant and Catholic Elements in Pioneer Days—Baptists—Presbyterians—United Presbyterians—Christian Churches—The Methodist Episcopal Denomination—African Methodist Episcopal—Lorenzo Dow at Rockville—United Brethren—Lutherans—Roman Catholic—Society of Friends—Hicksites—Universalists.	

## CONTENTS.

CHAPTER VIII—CIVIC SOCIETIES IN PARKE COUNTY.....	111
Masonic Order—Independent Order of Odd Fellows—Daughters of Rebekah— Knights of Pythias—Grand Army of the Republic.	
CHAPTER IX—NEWSPAPERS OF PARKE COUNTY.....	119
First and Later Newspapers—The Whig Party Organs—"Olive Branch," a Noted Publication—History of the "Tribune" and the "Republican" of Today— Democratic and Independent Papers—Present Newspapers of the County.	
CHAPTER X—IMPORTANT CRIMINAL CASES.....	123
Cases Prior to the Civil War—Liberty Township Crimes—The Celebrated Beau- champ Case—Killing of Nillis Hart at Montezuma—Killing of Mrs. Vollmer of Rockville—Killing of Oscar P. Lill—Terrible Deed by Insane Man—Sheriff Mull, With His Deputy and Others Killed.	
CHAPTER XI—POLITICAL HISTORY AND ELECTION RETURNS.....	130
Democrats and Whigs Pitted Against Each Other—Trouble Over the Canal— The National Road Difficulty—Hard Times Come on—Election Returns— Presidential Votes Since Lincoln.	
CHAPTER XII—EDUCATIONAL HISTORY OF PARKE COUNTY.....	135
CHAPTER XIII—AGRICULTURE AND MINING.....	142
Products of County a Third of a Century Ago—Coal Mined—Turnpike and Gravel Roads—Agricultural Societies at Montezuma, Rockville, Bridgeton and Bloomingdale.	
CHAPTER XIV—MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS .....	146
Local Railroad History—Present Railroad Mileage in Parke County—Coal Min- ing—Early Mines—Present Operations and Output—Accidents—Prices—Com- panies Operating—Banking History of Parke County—Bank Building and Old National Hall—Its Burning and the New Building—Present Banks—Village Plats—Population of County—Witness Trees—Records Burned—Legal Execu- tions—Taxation List of 1833—Soldiers' Reunion—Market Quotations—Days of Public Mourning in Parke County.	
CHAPTER XV—STATE TUBERCULOSIS HOSPITAL.....	160
Establishment by Legislative Act—Location and Legislative Commission— Buildings—Mode of Treatment—Results.	
CHAPTER XVI—TOWN OF ROCKVILLE.....	164
Donation of Lands to County—First Settlers on Plat—Wallace Ray, the Pioneer Hotel Keeper and Postmaster—Saw-mills and Factories—Pottery—Woolen Mills—Destructive Fires—Poor Fire-fighting Apparatus—Opera Houses—Incor- poration of Town—Water Works and Lighting Plant—Volunteer Fire Company —Industries—Advent of the Colored People—Cemetery.	
CHAPTER XVII—ADAMS TOWNSHIP.....	172
Early Settlers—Early Hardships—A Noteworthy Incident—Development and Present Condition of the Township—Assessed Valuation—Population in 1910.	
CHAPTER XVIII—FLORIDA TOWNSHIP.....	176
Location—Old Canal—Population—Valuation at Present—Name of Township— Early Settlers—Villages—Roseville—Numa—Clinton Lock—Rosedale—Jessup— West Atherton—Coxville.	



## CONTENTS.

<b>CHAPTER XIX—GREENE TOWNSHIP</b> .....	181
Location and Topography—Railroads—Population—Valuation of Property—Indian Days and Wild Game—Early Settlement—Mills—Villages of Parkville—Liquor Stills.	
<b>CHAPTER XX—HOWARD TOWNSHIP</b> .....	185
Boundaries—Topography—Naming of Township—Early Settlement—Pioneer Milling—Present Conditions—Population of the Township.	
<b>CHAPTER XXI—JACKSON TOWNSHIP</b> .....	187
Naming of Township—Geography and Topography—First Settlers—Early Surveyors—First Births—Assessed Valuation—Population—Villages—Mansfield—Lena.	
<b>CHAPTER XXII—LIBERTY TOWNSHIP</b> .....	191
Location—Streams—Population—Assessed Valuation—Pioneer Settlers—Relations with the Indians—Old Tanyard—First Teacher—Early Prices—Pioneer Church—Early Saw-mill—Old Grave-yard—Indian Remains—Villages—Lodi-ville—Old Westport—Sylvania—Tangier.	
<b>CHAPTER XXIII—PENN TOWNSHIP</b> .....	195
Size and Location—Assessed Valuation—Population—Soil and Products—Gravel Roads—The Quakers—First Pioneers—Villages—Annapolis—Bloomingdale (Bloomfield)—The Academy—Early Industries—Cloth-making—Prices for Spinning and Weaving—The Old Fulling Mill—First Saw-mill and Grist-mill—A Pioneer Foundry—The Old Cast Plows—Flat-boat Building.	
<b>CHAPTER XXIV—RESERVE TOWNSHIP</b> .....	201
Name—Boundary—Large Farms—Fine Timber-land—Population—Assessed Valuation—Early Settlement—Indians—Farm Implements Used by the Pioneers—Deer Plentiful—Flat-boat Building—First Schools—First Death—First Wed-ding—Towns and Villages—Montezuma—Colma—Canal and Railroad Days—Population—Assessed Valuation—Railroad Shops—Old Flouring Mill—Business Interests of 1912—Corporation History—Water and Light Plants.	
<b>CHAPTER XXV—RACCOON TOWNSHIP</b> .....	208
Big and Little Raccoon as Known to Indians—Great Forests—Reclaimed Lands—Early Settlement—Milling—Villages—Catlin—Bridgeton—Diamond—Early Corn Crackers and Mills—Milk Sickness—Population—Assessed Valuation.	
<b>CHAPTER XXVI—SUGAR CREEK TOWNSHIP</b> .....	213
Area—Streams—Assessed Valuation—Population—First Settlement—Milling In-terests—First Meeting-house—Public Roads—Russell Postoffice—Killing of Old Johnnie Green, the Indian Chief.	
<b>CHAPTER XXVII—UNION TOWNSHIP</b> .....	216
Boundaries—Streams—Resources—The Natural Bridge—Population—Property Valuations—The Pioneers—Indian Trail—Drunkenness Among the Indians—Pioneer Martin—Land Entries—Steam and Water Milling—Bellemore—New Discovery—North and Southampton—Hollandsburg—Public Roads—Cemeteries.	
<b>CHAPTER XXVIII—WABASH TOWNSHIP</b> .....	220
Location—Boundary—Topography—First Mills—Early Settlers and Later Pio-neers—Mecca Saw-mill—Population—Assessed Valuation—First School House—Flat-boat Building—“Never-built”—Railroads—Present Railroads—Wabash & Erie Canal.	

## CONTENTS.

CHAPTER XXIX WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP.....	223
Population—Valuations—First Settlers—Roaring Creek Settlement—First Orchards—Schools—Presbyterian Church—The “Almighty’s Bull-dog”—First Deaths—Roseville Mills—Nyesville—Judson Lodges.	
<hr/>	
VERMILLION COUNTY.	
CHAPTER I—NATURAL FEATURES OF VERMILLION COUNTY .....	227
Significance of Name—Geographical Situation—The Beautiful Wabash and Other Streams—Geological Formation—Soil, Streams, Springs—Mineral Wealth—Concerning the Forests—Clays of the County.	
CHAPTER II—PREHISTORIC AND INDIAN RACES.....	235
The Mound Builders—Implements and Relics Found—Burying Grounds—Finding of Skeletons—Indian Occupancy of County—The Miami, Kickapoos, Pottawatomies—French Missionaries—First Trading Posts—The Brouillets—Joseph Collett, Sr.—General Harrison’s March to Tippecanoe—Murder of Se-Seep—Military Journal.	
CHAPTER III—THE FIRST WHITE SETTLEMENT.....	246
John Vannest and William Bales—Narrow Escape from Death of Mrs. Vannest—Great Slaughter of Wild Animals.	
CHAPTER IV—ORGANIZATION AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT.....	249
Size and Boundary—Original Organization—Acts Creating the County—County Government—Transcript of Early Records—First Jury—Court Houses and Jails—Present County Buildings—County Asylum for the Poor—Robbery of the County Treasury—Assessed Valuation by Precincts—Funds—Receipts and Disbursements.	
CHAPTER V—COUNTY AND OTHER OFFICIALS.....	262
Sheriffs—Recorders—Clerks—Treasurers—Auditors—Surveyors—Coroners—Associate Judges—Probate Judges.	
CHAPTER VI—MILITARY HISTORY OF VERMILLION COUNTY.....	268
Its Part in the Civil War—Some of the Causes of the War—Firing on Fort Sumter—Address by Captain Owen—History of the Regiments and Companies from Vermillion County—Bounties and Relief Funds.	
CHAPTER VII—EDUCATIONAL HISTORY OF VERMILLION COUNTY.....	289
Territorial Provisions for Education—Act of 1816—Donations of Lands for Schools and Universities—School Houses a Quarter of a Century Ago—First Schools and School Houses—Educational Advancement—Present Standing of Schools—Teachers, Wages and Apportionments by Townships in 1912—School Enumeration—Consolidated Schools.	
CHAPTER VIII CHURCHES OF VERMILLION COUNTY.....	293
Presbyterian—United Brethren—Methodist Episcopal—Baptists—Society of Friends—Universalists—Roman Catholics—Christians—United Brethren Union—African Methodist Episcopal.	

## CONTENTS.

CHAPTER IX—FRATERNAL SOCIETIES IN VERMILLION COUNTY.....	307
Free and Accepted Masons—Independent Order of Odd Fellows—Knights of Pythias.	
CHAPTER X—VERMILLION COUNTY ATTORNEYS.....	312
Paragraphs Concerning the Earlier and Present Members of the Vermillion County Bar—Attorneys of 1912.	
CHAPTER XI—VERMILLION COUNTY PHYSICIANS.....	318
Pioneer Medical Practice—First Physicians to Locate Here—County Medical Societies, Past and Present—A Blind Physician—Doctor Keyes.	
CHAPTER XII—NEWSPAPERS OF VERMILLION COUNTY.....	325
First and Subsequent Papers—The News-Letter, Hoosier State, Argus, Clintonian, Times, Dana News—The Old Olive Branch—The Press, Past and Present, at Cayuga—Perrysville Banner—Quotations from Early Newspapers.	
CHAPTER XIII—BANKING IN VERMILLION COUNTY.....	332
First Banking House in the County—Subsequent Banks—Present Banks of the County, with Some Statements.	
CHAPTER XIV—TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES.....	336
Early Freightage—Boating—Canals—Steamboating on the Wabash, Ohio and Mississippi—The Clinton Wharf—Railroads of Vermillion County, Past and Present—Old Narrow Gauge Line—Electric Line—Present Mileage in County, by Townships—Public Gravel Roads.	
CHAPTER XV—AGRICULTURAL INTERESTS.....	343
Early-day Implements—Crops—Agricultural Resources of the County—Farm Statistics—Land Prices—Old-time Farm Machinery—Fruit Crops—Agricultural Societies.	
CHAPTER XVI—THE COAL MINING INDUSTRY.....	348
Its Beginning and Development—Coal-bearing Counties of Indiana—Production—Wages—State Mining Reports—Market Prices for Coal—A Review of the Industry—Distribution of the Product—Vermillion County Mines and Companies—Thickness of Seam and Depth from Surface—Fatal Accident—Miners and Appliances—Men Employed—Powder Used—Bunsen Coal Co. and the Universal Mines—A Three-Million-Dollar Plant—Description of Mines and Buildings.	
CHAPTER XVII—MISCELLANEOUS TOPICS.....	355
Old Whig Party—Borrowing a Cannon—Incidents Relating to the Civil-war Period—Presidential Vote for a Half Century—Market Quotations—Comparison with a Bushel of Wheat—Tariff Hints—Original Village Plats—Cemeteries—Population—County Societies—Temperance Organizations—Postoffices—Postal Savings Banks—Large Damage Suits—Powder Mill Explosions—Destruction by Dynamiters—A Brutal Outrage—Mourning for Presidents.	
CHAPTER XVIII—CITY OF CLINTON.....	376
Name—Platting and First Development—Population Statistics—Industries—Postoffices—Churches and Lodges—Municipal History—Fire Department—Water Works—Electric Light—Board of Education—Present City Officials—Items of Interest—Prospecting for Natural Gas.	



## CONTENTS.

CHAPTER XIX—TOWN OF NEWPORT.....	386
The County Seat—First Buildings and Stores—Incorporation—The Old Mill— Postoffice—Saloon Troubles—Population—The Great Tile Works—"Woman's Crusade"—Business Interests in 1912.	
CHAPTER XX—CLINTON TOWNSHIP.....	390
Name—First Settler—Other Pioneers—General Features—Mining—Schools and Churches—Area and Population.	
CHAPTER XXI—EUGENE TOWNSHIP.....	394
Boundary and Location—Area and Population—Valuation—A Mound Discov- ery—Rare Exhibition of Animal Nature—Early Settlement—Towns and Villages —First Newspaper in the County—Cayuga—Eugene—Railroads—Cayuga Mills —Grand Army of the Republic—Good Templars—Incorporation—Postoffice Safe Blown Open—Electric Lighting—Present Business Interests—Collett's Home for Orphans.	
CHAPTER XXII—HELT TOWNSHIP.....	405
Geographical Situation—Area and Population—Assessed Valuation—Pioneer Settlement—First School—Old Davis Ferry—Famous Fox Hunts—Rural De- velopment—Gravel Highways—Modern Farm Improvements—Parcel Post— Towns and Villages—Toronto—Jonestown (St. Bernice)—Hillsdale—Highland —Summit Grove—Dana—Situation—First Buildings—Incorporation.	
CHAPTER XXIII—HIGHLAND TOWNSHIP.....	417
Location—Boundaries—Population—Area—Assessed Valuation—Early Settlers —Perryville—Village of Gessie—Rileysburg.	
CHAPTER XXIV—VERMILLION TOWNSHIP.....	423
Situation—Name—Population—Valuation of Property—Area—Pioneer Settle- ment—Sketch of Hon. O. P. Davis—A Long-lost Daughter—Quaker Hill Settle- ment.	

# HISTORICAL INDEX

## PARKE COUNTY.

### A

Adams Township .....	172
African M. E. Church .....	102
Agricultural Societies .....	143
Agriculture .....	142
Annapolis .....	196
Army Ford .....	52
Assessed Valuation .....	65
Assessors, County .....	70
Associate Judges .....	70
Auditors, County .....	69
Awful Experience .....	173

### B

Banking in Parke County .....	149
Baptist Churches .....	88
Bar of Parke County .....	71
Bellemore .....	218
Bloomfield .....	196
Bloomington .....	196
Bloomington Academy .....	139
Bridgeton .....	211
Brooks, Capt. Andrew .....	55

### C

Catholic Churches .....	105
Catlin .....	211
Cemetery, Rockville .....	169
Christian Churches .....	95
Churches .....	87
Circuit Judges .....	70
Civic Societies .....	111
Civil War Days .....	73
Clerks, County .....	67
Clinton Lock .....	179
Coal Mining Operations .....	147

Coloma .....	207
Colored People, Rockville .....	171
Common Pleas Judges .....	71
Coroners .....	69
Counties, Formation of .....	44
County Assessors .....	70
County Auditors .....	69
County Clerks .....	67
County Examiners .....	138
County Funds .....	64
County Government .....	61
County Officials .....	67
County Organization .....	60
County Recorders .....	68
County Superintendents .....	138
County Surveyors .....	70
County Treasurers .....	69
Court House, First .....	61
Court Houses .....	62
Coxville .....	180
Criminal Cases .....	123
Crops and Weather .....	144

### D

Daughters of Rebekah .....	116
Days of Mourning .....	156
De Soto, Fernando .....	27
Diamond .....	212

### E

Early County Seats .....	61
Early Indiana History .....	25
Early Law Breakers .....	66
Early Teachers' Qualifications .....	137
Education in Parke County .....	135
Educational Statistics .....	140
Eighty-fifth Regiment .....	81

# HISTORICAL INDEX.

Election Returns .....	133
Eleventh Cavalry .....	82
Enlistments for War .....	73
Examiners, County .....	138

## F

Farm Implements, Early .....	202
Farm Productions .....	142
Farm Values .....	143
Finances of Parke County .....	64
Fires in Rockville .....	167
First Court House .....	61
First Jail .....	61
First Schools .....	135
First White Settler .....	55
Florida Township .....	176
Formation of Counties .....	44
Forty-third Regiment .....	77
Fourteenth Regiment .....	74
Free and Accepted Masons .....	111
French Possession .....	43
Friends' Bloomingdale Academy .....	139
Friends' Church .....	106

## G

Garfield's Death .....	157
Gen. Harrison Trail .....	52
Geology of Parke County .....	53
Grand Army of the Republic .....	117
Grant Memorial Services .....	158
Greene Township .....	181
Guion .....	184

## H

Harrison Trail .....	52
Hennepin, Louis .....	37
Hicksite Quakers .....	108
Hobbs, Barnabas C. ....	137
Hollandsburg .....	219
Howard .....	194
Howard Township .....	185
Hundred-day Men .....	83

## I

Implements, Early .....	202
Important Criminal Cases .....	123
Independent Order of Odd Fellows.....	114
Indian Days .....	182

Indian Occupancy .....	46
Indians, Removal of.....	44
Industries of Rockville .....	170
Insane Man's Deed .....	128

## J

Jackson Township .....	187
Jail, the First .....	61
Jessup .....	180
Johnay Green Killed .....	214
Judges .....	70
Judson .....	225

## K

Killing of Johnny Green .....	214
Knights of Pythias .....	116

## L

La Salle's Explorations .....	35, 37
Law Breakers .....	66
Lawyers of Parke County .....	71
Legal Executions .....	155
Lena .....	190
Liberty Township .....	191
Lighting Plant, Rockville .....	169
Lorenzo Dow .....	103
Lost in the Forest .....	173
Lutheran Churches .....	105

## Mc

McCune Cadets .....	86
McKinley's Death .....	157

## M

Mansfield .....	189
Market Quotations .....	156
Marquette, Father .....	25
Masonic Order .....	111
Mecca .....	222
Methodist Episcopal Churches .....	97
Military History .....	72
Mills of Greene Township .....	183
Mine Production .....	142
Mines and Mining .....	142
Miscellaneous Items .....	146
Montezuma .....	204

# HISTORICAL INDEX.

Mound Builders .....	46
Municipal History, Rockville .....	168

## N

Newspapers of Parke County .....	119
Ninth Battery .....	78
Numa .....	179
Nyesville .....	225

## O

Odd Fellows .....	114
Official Roster .....	67
Organization of County .....	60

## P

Parke County Agricultural Society ..	143
Parke County Asylum .....	65
Parke County Finances .....	64
Parke County Geology .....	53
Parke County Lawyers .....	71
Parke County Schools .....	135
Parke County Seminary .....	140
Parkeville .....	184
Penn Guards .....	76
Penn Township .....	195
Pioneer Settlement .....	54
Political History .....	130
Poor Asylum .....	66
Population Statistics .....	154
Postoffice, Rockville .....	168
Presbyterian Churches .....	90
Present Banks .....	151
Present Court House .....	63
Present Methodist Churches .....	104
Prices, Past and Present .....	156
Probate Judges .....	71
Pythian Order .....	116

## R

Raccoon Township .....	208
Railroads .....	146
Rebekah Degree .....	116
Recorders, County .....	68
Records Burned .....	155
Religious Societies .....	87
Removal of Indians .....	44
Representatives .....	67
Reserve Township .....	201

Rockville .....	164
Rockville Tribune .....	120
Roman Catholic Churches .....	106
Rose, Chauncey .....	55
Roseville .....	178

## S

School Consolidations .....	139
School Statistics .....	140
Schools of Parke County .....	135
Second Court House .....	62
Settlement of Parke County .....	54
Settler, First White .....	55
Seventy-eighth Regiment .....	80
Sheriffs .....	68
Society of Friends .....	106
Soldiers' Reunion .....	156
State Representatives .....	67
State Tuberculosis Hospital .....	160
Sugar Creek Township .....	213
Superintendents of Schools .....	138
Surveyors, County .....	70
Sylvania .....	194

## T

Tangier .....	194
Taxation List of 1833 .....	155
The Press .....	119
Treasurers, County .....	69
Tribune, Rockville .....	120
Tuberculosis Hospital .....	160
Twenty-first Regiment .....	75

## U

Union Township .....	216
United Brethren Churches .....	105
United Presbyterian Churches .....	94
Universalists .....	110

## V

Valuations .....	65
Village Plats .....	152

## W

Wabash Riflemen .....	75
Wabash Township .....	220
War Questions .....	72



## HISTORICAL INDEX.

Washington Township .....	223	Wild Game .....	182
Water Works, Rockville .....	169	Witness Trees .....	155
Waterman .....	193		
West Atherton .....	180	<b>Y</b>	
Westport .....	194	Young People's Reading Circle.....	138

## VERMILLION COUNTY.

<b>A</b>	
A Soldier's Diary .....	283
Acreage of Farms .....	344
Agricultural Interests .....	343
Agricultural Societies .....	346
Assessed Valuations .....	259
Associate Judges .....	267
Asylum for the Poor .....	257
Attorneys of the County .....	312
Auditors of County .....	265
<b>B</b>	
Banking .....	332
Baptist Churches .....	295
Bar of Vermillion County .....	312
Blind Physician .....	322
Bounties .....	282
Brouillets .....	240
Brutal Outrage .....	369
<b>C</b>	
Catholic Churches .....	304
Cayuga .....	401
Cemeteries .....	364
Christian Churches .....	306
Church in War Days .....	303
Churches .....	293, 381, 401
Circuit-rider, Early .....	302
City of Clinton .....	376
Clays of the County .....	233
Clerks of County .....	263
Clinton .....	376
Clinton Township .....	390
Coal Mining Industry .....	348
Coal Prices .....	350
Collett Home for Orphans .....	402
Commissioners, First County .....	252
Commissioners' Records .....	252
<b>Comparative Prices</b> .....	<b>361</b>
Coroners .....	266
County Auditors .....	265
County Clerks .....	263
County Commissioners, First .....	252
County Finances .....	259
County Funds .....	259
County Government .....	249
County Officials .....	262
County Recorders .....	263
County Seat Located .....	251
County Societies .....	365
County Surveyors .....	265
County Treasurers .....	264
County Treasury Robbed .....	258
Court Houses .....	255
Crops .....	344
<b>D</b>	
Dana .....	414
Daughters of Rebekah .....	310
Days of Mourning .....	370
Death of President Garfield .....	371
Death of President McKinley .....	372
Diary of Gen. Tipton .....	244
Doctors .....	318
Dynamiters .....	368
<b>E</b>	
Educational History .....	289
Eighteenth Regiment .....	276
Eighty-fifth Regiment .....	280
Election Returns .....	358
Electric Line .....	340
Enumeration, School .....	292
Eugene, Town of .....	400
Eugene Township .....	394
Explosion, Powder Mill .....	367

# HISTORICAL INDEX.

## F

Fairview Park .....	393
Farm Statistics .....	344
Fifty Years Ago .....	358
Finances of County .....	259
First County Commissioners .....	252
First Grand Jury .....	253
First Petit Jury .....	254
First Schools .....	291
First White Settlement .....	246
Forests .....	231
Forty-third Regiment .....	277
Fourteenth Regiment .....	274
Fox Hunts .....	410
Fraternal Societies .....	307
Free and Accepted Masons .....	307
Friends .....	303

## G

Geology .....	228
Gessie .....	422
Gravel Roads .....	341

## H

Harrison's March .....	241
Holt Township .....	405
Highland .....	414
Highland Township .....	417
Hillsdale .....	413

## I

Independent Order of Odd Fellows .....	309
Indian Occupancy .....	238
Indian Races .....	235
Indiana Furnace .....	355
Industries of Clinton .....	379
Iron Industry .....	355
Iron Ore .....	231

## J

Jails .....	255
Jonestown .....	412
Judges, Associate .....	267
Judges, Probate .....	267
Jurors, First Grand .....	253

## K

Knights of Pythias .....	311
Knights of the Golden Circle .....	272

## L

Last and Largest Mines .....	353
Lawyers .....	312
Legislative Act .....	249
Lincoln's Assassination .....	370
Lodges .....	381, 401
Long-lost Daughter .....	427

## M

Market Quotations .....	361
Masonic Order .....	307
Medical Societies .....	324
Methodist Episcopal Churches .....	298
Military History .....	268
Mines .....	348
Mining Wages .....	350
Miscellaneous Topics .....	355
Mound Builders .....	235

## N

Narrow Gauge Railroad .....	340
Natural Features .....	227
Natural Gas .....	385
Newport .....	386
Newspapers .....	325

## O

Odd Fellows .....	309
Officials of County .....	262
Old Indiana Furnace .....	355
Old time Circuit Rider .....	302
One Hundred Twenty-ninth Regiment .....	281
Organization of County .....	249
Orphans' Home, The Collett .....	402

## P

Perrysville .....	420
Petit Jury, First .....	254
Physicians of County .....	318
Plats, Original Village .....	362
Political Incidents .....	357
Poor Farm .....	257

# HISTORICAL INDEX.

Population Statistics .....	364
Postoffices .....	366
Poverty and Happiness .....	373
Powder Mill Explosion .....	367
Pre-historic Races .....	235
Presbyterian Churches .....	293
Prices, Comparative .....	361
Prices for Coal .....	350
Probate Judges .....	267

## Q

Quaker Hill .....	428
Quakers .....	303

## R

Railroad Mileage .....	341
Railroads .....	337
Rebekah Degree .....	310
Recorders of County .....	263
Regulators .....	270
Robbery of County Treasury .....	258
Roman Catholic Churches .....	304

## S

St. Bernice .....	412
School Enumeration .....	292
School Statistics, 1887 .....	290
School Statistics, 1912 .....	292
Schools, First .....	291
Se-Seep, Chief .....	242
Settlement, First White .....	246
Seventy-first Regiment .....	279
Sheriffs .....	262
Sixteenth Regiment .....	275

Sixth Cavalry .....	279
Slaughter of Wild Animals .....	248
Society of Friends .....	303
Streams .....	227
Summit Grove .....	414
Surveyors of County .....	265

## T

Temperance Organization .....	366
Thirty-first Regiment .....	277
Timber .....	231
Tipton, Gen. John .....	243
Toronto .....	412
Transportation Facilities .....	336
Treachery .....	272
Treasurers of County .....	264

## U

"Uncle Tom's Cabin" .....	269
United Brethren Churches .....	296
United Brethren Union Churches .....	306
Universalists .....	304

## V

Valuations .....	259
Vermillion County Attorneys .....	312
Vermillion County Physicians .....	318
Vermillion Township .....	423
Village Plats .....	362

## W

War Funds .....	282
Water Power .....	232

# BIOGRAPHICAL INDEX

---

## A

Adams, James W.	645
Adams, Joseph D.	709
Adams, Lewis E.	678
Adamson, Henry	515
Aikman, Barton S., Hon.	434
Aikman, Homer B.	638
Ailbright, Henry	674
Allen, R. A.	757
Amis, Joseph W.	458
Andrews, Darwin	546
Arthur, James N.	556
Ashley, Charles W., Jr.	510
Ashmore, James	706
Aye, Albert	619

## B

Bales, Harry	782
Ball, Charles F.	595
Beeler, Frank H., M. D.	447
Bennett, Charles	662
Benson, Alonzo O.	537
Bingham, Thomas	646
Bishop, Lucius O.	448
Blake, William P.	623
Bowsher, William A.	524
Brannon, Charles	668
Briggs, Guy H.	754
Brockway, Allan T.	483
Brown, John D.	769
Brown, William F.	712
Bryant, Guy	686
Burks, John D.	789
Burnett, James F.	552
Butcher, Rev. A. C.	750

## C

Carpenter, B. O.	800
Carter, M. B.	748
Case, Marvin H.	736

Casebeer, I. M., M. D.	643
Catlin, Samuel T.	487
Chaney, Ernest	669
Chaney, James A.	649
Chaney, Omer	658
Chapman, Ewing	497
Chesterfield, Oscar	612
Church, Richard F.	543
Clark, Albert L.	794
Coble, Samuel	672
Cole, Jacob S.	620
Collings, William B.	689
Conley, Hugh H.	734
Cooper, Charles R.	747
Cox, William, Sr.	752
Cox, William N.	628
Cristy, Frank P.	560

## D

Daniels, Joseph J.	507
Davis, Bird H.	544
Davis, Holbert	809
Davis, Jacob G.	549
Davis, Samuel B.	512
Delp, Juel A.	699
Devonald, William	561
Dickenson, G. E.	799
Drake, Leonidas	565
Dugger, James G.	557
Durr, Sebastian	681

## E

Elder, James E.	443
Eller, James H.	783
Evans, Dr. E. M.	697

## F

Ferguson, Arthur	601
Ferguson, Henry	569
Ferguson, James	605



# BIOGRAPHICAL INDEX.

Finnegan, G. L.	804
Finney, R. J.	766
Fisher, J. A.	651
Frantz, Joseph L.	599
Frazer, Allen	755
Frist, Jasper N.	580
Fultz, Charles N.	624

## G

Garwood, Judge A.	805
Gates, F. M.	621
Gillum, William B.	525
Gillum, William H., M. D.	498
Gilmore, John W.	540
Goodin, William	618
Gregg, Fred Alfred	562
Gregory, James	600
Gregory, Thomas	802
Griffin, Fred	664
Griffin, G. W.	811
Griffin, J. G.	812
Griffiths, D. W.	803
Grubb, Henry	502
Guinn, Robert E.	753

## H

Haddon, Jesse E.	551
Hall, Melvin L., M. D.	741
Hall, Capt. S. J.	729
Hargrave, Arthur A.	504
Harrison, Edgar R.	786
Harrison, Robert	758
Harrison, Roy C.	598
Harshbarger, John E.	670
Hatfield, G. W.	773
Hathaway, Elbertson	715
Hayes, William L.	571
Heaton, J. R.	655
Henderson, Harold A.	516
Henderson, John	732
Hess, Asa A.	550
Hobson, Ira	700
Hosford, Charles	792
Hosford, Monroe G.	587
Hughes, Ralph V.	798
Humphries, L. B.	589
Hunt, Elwood	518
Huxford, A. J.	466
Huxford, Perry	781
Huxford, Voorhees	660

## J

Jacks, George W.	676
Jacobs, Herman H.	657
James, James D.	793
Jardine, William	718
Jeffries, Stephen H.	532
Jenks, Stephen	713
Johns, J. M.	576
Johnson, Daniel C.	508
Johnson, Frank R.	635
Johnson, William A., M. D.	615
Johnston, James T.	476
Johnston, William, Jr.	810
Jones, Edward	555

## K

Kearns, F. M.	807
Kerr, James H.	538
Kessler, M. V.	814
Keyes, Otis M., M. D.	602

## L

Lake, Israel	787
Laney, George L.	640
Lang, Benjamin F.	717
Lanning, William	693
Lavery, Aquilla	530
Leavitt, H. B.	772
Lindley, S. G.	702
Linebarger, George H.	631
Linebarger, John A.	456
Linebarger, Levi J.	634
Livengood, Charles A.	692
Lockridge, A. B., M. D.	492
Lowe, Harry L.	705
Lowlor, C. M.	806
Lyday, Mark W.	578

## Mc

McCaman, E. F.	728
McCormack, E. G.	720
McCutchan, E. M.	764
McDonald, Thomas L.	582
McElroy, Stephen C.	610
McFaddin, John S.	520
McMullen, D. B.	653

# BIOGRAPHICAL INDEX.

## M

Manion, Sylvester	771
Mark, J. H.	711
Marks, George E.	534
Martin, T. C.	763
Maxwell, Howard	490
Maxwell, W. H.	690
Meyers, Charles H.	545
Miller, C. F.	795
Miller, Dick	813
Miller, John R.	536
Miller, John R. Mc.	719
Mitchell, Frederick A.	609
Montgomery, Hugh	533
Montgomery, John H.	656
Moore, Harry	654
Morgan, Brown H.	574
Morgan, Harmon K.	572
Morris, C. C., M. D.	495
Myers, J. H.	677
Myers, Quincy A.	462
Myers, William C., M. D.	604

## N

Neal, M. Hudson	703
Nebeker, Mark E.	511
Neel, E. E.	647
Nelson, Thomas H.	591
Newlin, Ira	815
Newton, John R.	665
Nichols, Frank H.	461
Nichols, Maj. Jonathan M.	464
Nixon, Robert H.	452
Nurnberger, Albert	666

## O

Overpeck, C. W., M. D.	489
Overpeck, Isaac M.	680
Overpeck, Leonidas E.	650

## P

Paine, James	581
Paine, John R.	584
Parke County Times	528
Payne, Harrison T.	445
Peer, William F.	722
Pence, Peter	485
Phillips, Parke	691

Phinney, Walter G.	759
Pickard, Isaac A.	403
Pickard, John S.	527
Pierce, Jesse W.	768
Pike, Stephen A.	500
Pitman, Bennie E.	568
Porter, Worth W.	632
Pritchett, Grover C., M. D.	607
Puett, James W.	682
Puett, S. F. Max	473
Puett, Samuel D.	474
Puett, Thomas B.	684
Puffer, Morgan	707
Puntenney, John G.	608

## R

Redman, John W.	554
Reed, Charles S.	606
Reed, James S.	765
Reeder, Valzah	749
Renick, Charles D.	593
Riggs, William	626
Richards, Harry J.	808
Robbins, S. M.	791
Roberts, Phillip A.	779
Rohm, E. H. C.	774
Rohm, George W.	778
Rudy, Milo J.	541
Rusing, R. J.	679
Russell, Jesse H.	725
Rutter, J. Carl	704

## S

Salmon, George H.	661
Satterlee, Willis A.	575
Scott, Matthew M.	745
Seybold, John N.	596
Seybold, Percy	688
Seybold, William P.	586
Shannon, Walter B.	636
Sherrill, B. O.	738
Sherrill, C. L.	528
Sherrill, F. L.	528
Shew, Henry	781
Shirkie, James	570
Simpson, J. T.	744
Skeeters, Homer J.	439
Skidmore, J. F.	740
Snow, James M.	659

# BIOGRAPHICAL INDEX.

Soules, Alonzo .....	687
Spellman, E. H. ....	733
Spencer, Frank .....	724
Spencer, George W., Jr. ....	450
Spencer, John H. ....	467
Staats, Samuel .....	723
Stark, Alfred H. ....	454
Stark, John O. ....	472
Stephens, Edgar R. ....	627
Stewart, Lee Roy .....	780
Stone, Clarence .....	590
Stone, Robert I. ....	639
Stoner, Lycurgus T. ....	685
Strain, Joseph W. ....	441
Strong, Daniel S., M. D. ....	548
Strouse, Isaac R. ....	480
Stultz, George W. ....	563
Stuthard, George B. ....	471
Sunkel, George D. ....	614
Swope, Raymond E., M. D. ....	484

## T

Taylor, Green T. ....	622
Taylor, James A. ....	663
Thomas, Charles B. ....	671
Thomas, Clay E. ....	785
Thompson, Dee .....	698
Thomson, William M. ....	479
Times, Parke County .....	528
Tolin, John A. ....	727

Tucker, W. N. ....	797
Tutwiler, James P. ....	585
Tyre, James .....	652

## V

Vansickle, Ross .....	716
-----------------------	-----

## W

Walker, Charles P. ....	696
Walker, Fred .....	667
Walter, John O. ....	558
Watson, Henry .....	630
Wait, William C. ....	469
Watters, John .....	559
Welch, Elmer T. ....	613
Welch, John A., M. D. ....	616
Welch, Patrick .....	721
Wheat, Albert .....	694
White, Hon. Ared F. ....	429
White, Isaac D., M. D. ....	761
White, Ren M. ....	762
White, William J. ....	776
Whittington, James M. ....	523
Williams, Daniel C. ....	529
Williams, David .....	675
Winter, C. A. ....	743
Wood, Fred .....	790
Wright, Dana F. ....	567

# PARKE COUNTY

---

## CHAPTER I.

### EARLY INDIANA HISTORY.

What is now known as the state of Indiana was originally discovered and hence claimed as the possession of France by that government. It was Joliet, a Frenchman of great experience as a navigator and discoverer, who was accompanied by that illustrious Catholic, Father Marquette, who first set the world in possession of the facts concerning the great Mississippi river and its wide, rich valley. Marquette had learned much concerning this stream through the Indians whom he was seeking, in the northern country, to convert to Christianity. In a letter written by Marquette from his mission to his reverend superior, he wrote:

"While the Illinois (tribe) came to this point they pass a great river which is almost a league in width. It flows from north to south and to so great a distance that the Illinois, who know nothing of the use of a canoe, have never yet heard tell of its mouth; they only know that there are great nations below them, some of whom, dwelling to the east-southeast of their country, gather their Indian corn twice a year. A nation that they call Chaouan (Shawneese) came to visit them during the past summer; the young man that has been given me to teach me the language has seen them; they were loaded with glass beads, which shows that they have communication with the Europeans. They had to journey across the land for more than thirty days before arriving at their country. It is hardly probable that this great river discharges itself into the ocean from Virginia. We are more inclined to think that it has its mouth in California. If the savages, who have promised to make me a canoe, do not fail in their word, we will navigate this river as far as possible with a Frenchman and this young man that they have given me, who understands several languages and possesses great facility for acquiring others. We shall visit these nations who dwell along its shores to open the way of our fathers who for a long time have awaited



this happiness. This discovery will give us a perfect knowledge of the sea, either to the south or west."

This knowledge came to the ears of the French authorities at Quebec, and indeed over in Paris, and naturally enough stimulated further inquiry. There were three theories as to where the Mississippi river finally emptied its waters: One that it was discharged into the Atlantic ocean, south of the British colony of Virginia; second, that it flowed into the gulf of Mexico; and third, which was the most popular theory, that it was emptied into the Red Sea, as the Gulf of California was called, and if the latter, that it would afford a passage to China. To solve this important problem in the world's commerce, it was determined, as appears from a letter from the governor, at Quebec, to M. Colbert, minister of the French navy at Paris, expedient "for service to send Sieur Joliet to the country of the Mascoutines, to discover the South Sea and the great river—they call the Mississippi—which is supposed to discharge itself into the Sea of California."

Father Marquette was chosen to accompany Joliet on account of the information he had already gained from the various Indians he had met, as he wrote Father Dablon, his superior, when informed by the latter that he was to be Joliet's companion, "I am ready to go on your order to seek new nations toward the South Sea, and teach them of our great God whom they hitherto have not known."

Before proceeding with a description of the wonderful history of this voyage of Joliet and Marquette, it will be well to note that Spain had a prior right over France to the Mississippi valley by virtue of previous discovery. As early as 1525, Cortez had conquered Mexico, portioned out its rich mines among his favorites and reduced the inoffensive inhabitants to the worst of slavery, making them till the ground and toil in the mines for their unfeeling masters. A few years following the conquest of Mexico, the Spaniards, under Pamphilus de Narvaez, in 1528, undertook the conquest and colonization of Florida and the entire northeast coast-line of the gulf. After long and futile wanderings in the interior, his party returned to the sea coast and endeavored to reach Tampico, in wretched boats. Nearly all perished by disease, storm and famine. The survivors, with one Cabeza de Vaca at their head, drifted to an island near the present state of Mississippi, from which, after four years of slavery, De Vaca, with four companions, escaped to the mainland and started westward, going clear across the continent to the Gulf of California. The natives took them for supernatural beings. They assumed the guise of jugglers, and the Indian tribes through which they passed invested them with a tribe of medicine men, and their lives were thus guarded

with a superstitious awe. They are, perhaps, the first Europeans who ever went overland from the Atlantic to the Pacific. They must have crossed the Great River (Mississippi) somewhere on their route, remaining "in history, in a distant twilight, as the first Europeans known to have set foot on the banks of the Mississippi river."

It was in 1539 when Hernando De Soto, with a party of cavaliers, mostly the sons of titled nobility, landed with their horses upon the coast of Florida. During that and the following four years these daring adventurers wandered through the wilderness, traveling through portions of Florida, Carolina, Georgia, Alabama and Mississippi, crossing the Mississippi river, it is supposed, at some point within the present state of Mississippi. Crossing the **great river**, they pressed their way onward to the base of the Rocky mountains, vainly searching for the gold so marvelously described by De Vaca. De Soto's party endured hardships that would depress the stoutest hearts, while, with sword and fire, they perpetrated atrocities upon the Indian tribes through which they passed, burning their villages and inflicting cruelties which make us blush for the wickedness of men claiming to be Christians. De Soto died in May or June, 1542, on the banks of the Mississippi, below the mouth of the Washita, and his immediate attendants concealed his death from the others and secretly, in the night, buried his body in the middle of the stream. The remnant of his survivors went westward and then returned back again to the river, passing the winter upon its banks. The following spring they went down the river, in seven boats which they had rudely constructed out of such scanty material and with the few tools they could command. In these boats, after three months' voyage, they arrived at the Spanish town of Panuco, on the river of that name in Mexico.

Later, in 1565, Spain, failing in previous attempts, effected a lodgment in Florida, and for the protection of her colony built the old fort at St. Augustine, whose ancient ruins still stand out boldly today, as showing where the first settlement was effected in this country. It also stands as a monument over the graves of the hundreds of natives there killed, after serving in bondage, by their Spanish conquerors. These unfortunates had aided in the construction of the massive walls of masonry, converted into dungeons, dark and gloomy, and in which they finally perished.

While Spain retained her hold on Mexico and enlarged her possessions and continued, with feeble efforts, to keep possession of the Floridas, she took no measure to establish settlements along the Mississippi, or to avail herself of the advantage that might have resulted from its discovery. The Mississippi river excited no further notice after De Soto's time. For the next

century it remained a sealed mystery until the French, approaching from the north by way of the Great Lakes, explored it in its entire length and brought to public view the vast extent and wonderful fertility of its valleys.

Retracing our steps to the notes made in the carefully kept journal of Father Marquette, who, with Joliet, descended the Mississippi, it may first be stated that Joliet and Marquette's voyage made one of the most thrilling and romantic chapters in the history of the country, especially to those interested in the original of things connected with the states of Illinois and Indiana. The following is extracted from Marquette's journal:

"The day of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin, whom I had always invoked, since I have been in the Ottawa country, to obtain of God the grace to be able to visit the nations on the river Mississippi, was incidentally that on which M. Jollet arrived with orders to the Comte de Frontenac, our governor, and M. Talon, our intendant, to make the discovery with me. I was the more enraptured at this good news, as I saw my designs on the point of being accomplished, and myself in the happy necessity of exposing my life for the salvation of all these nations, and particularly for the Illinois, who had, when I was at Lapointe du Esprit, very earnestly entreated me to carry the word of God to their country.

"We were not long in preparing our outfit, although we were embarking on a voyage the duration of which we could not foresee. Indian corn, with some dried meats, was our whole stock of provisions. With this we set out in two bark canoes, M. Jollet, myself and five men, firmly resolved to do all, and suffer all for so glorious an enterprise.

"It was on May 17, 1763, that we started from the mission of St. Ignatius, at Michilimakinac, where I then was.

"Our joy at being chosen for this expedition roused our courage and sweetened our labors of rowing from morning till night. As we were going to seek unknown countries, we took all possible precautions that, if our enterprise was hazardous, it should not be foolhardy; for this reason we gathered all possible knowledge from the Indians who had frequented these parts, and even from their accounts traced a map of all the new country, marking down the rivers on which we were to sail, the names of the nations and places through which we were to pass, the course of the Great River, and what direction we should take when we got to it.

"Above all, I put our voyage under the protection of the Blessed Virgin Immaculate, promising her that, if she did us grace to discover the Great River, I would give it the name of the Conception, and that I would also give that name to the first mission I should establish among the new nations, as I have actually done among the Illinois."



After some days they reached an Indian village, and Marquette's diary continues: "Here we are, then, at the Maskoutens. This word, in Algonquin, may mean 'fire nation,' and that is the name given by them." This is the limit of the discoveries made by the French, for they have not yet passed beyond it. The town is made up of three nations gathered here, Miamis, Maskoutens and Kickabous. [This village was near the mouth of Wolfe river, which empties into Winnebago lake, Wisconsin.] As bark for cabins in this region is scarce, they use rushes, which serve them for walls and roofs, but which afford them no protection against the wind, and still less against the rain when it falls in torrents. The advantages of this kind of cabins is that they can roll them up and carry them easily where they like in hunting time.

"I felt no little pleasure in beholding the position of the town. The view is beautiful and picturesque, for, from the eminence on which it is perched, the eye discovers on every side prairies spreading away beyond its reach, interspersed with thickets or groves of trees. The soil is very good, producing much corn. The Indians gather also large quantities of plums and grapes from which good wine could be made if they choose.

"No sooner had we arrived than M. Jollyet and I assembled the Sachems. He told them we were sent by our governor to discover new countries, and I, by the Almighty, to illumine them with light of the gospel; that the sovereign Master of our lives wished to be known to all nations, and that to obey his will I did not fear death, to which I exposed myself in such dangerous voyages; that we needed two guides to put us on our way; these, making them a present, we begged them to grant to us. This they did very civilly, and even proceeded to speak to us by a present, which was a mat to serve us on our voyage.

"The next day, which was the tenth of June, two Miamis whom they had given us as guides, embarked with us in the sight of a great crowd, who could not wonder enough to see seven Frenchmen, alone in two canoes, dare to undertake so hazardous an expedition.

"We knew that there was, three leagues from Maskoutens, a river emptying into the Mississippi. We knew, too, that the point of the compass we were to hold to reach it was the west-southwest, but the way is so cut up with marshes and little lakes that it is easy to go astray, especially as the river leading to it is so covered with wild oats that you can hardly discover the channel; hence we had need of two guides, who led us safely to portage of twenty-seven hundred paces and helped us transport our canoes to enter the river, after which they returned, leaving us alone in an unknown country in the hands of Providence."



This portage has given us the name of Portage City, at which location it was, and is situated in Wisconsin, where the upper waters of Fox river, emptying into Green bay, approach the Wisconsin river, which, coming from the northwest, here changes its course to the southwest. The distance across this neck is a mile and a half, over the beautiful prairie above described by Marquette.

Marquette's journal continues: "We now leave the waters which flow to Quebec, a distance of about five hundred leagues, to follow those which will henceforth lead us into strange lands.

"Our route was southwest, and after sailing about thirty leagues we perceived a place which had all the appearances of an iron mine, and in fact one of our party who had seen some before averred that the one we had found was very rich and very good. After forty leagues on this same route we reached the mouth of the river, and finding ourselves at forty-two one-half north, we safely enter the Mississippi on the 17th of June with a joy I cannot express.

"Having descended as far as forty-one degrees and twenty-eight minutes, in the same direction, we find that turkeys have taken the place of game, and pisikious [buffalo] or wild cattle that of other beasts.

"At last, on the 25th of June, we perceived foot-prints of men, by the water sides, and a beaten path leading to some Indian village, and we resolved to go and reconnoiter; we accordingly left our two canoes in charge of our people, cautioning them to beware of a surprise; then M. Jolivet and I undertook the rather hazardous discovery for two men, single and alone, who thus put themselves at the mercy of an unknown and barbarous people. We followed the little path in silence and going about two leagues we discovered a village on the banks of the river, and two others on the hill a league from the former. Then, indeed, we recommended ourselves to God with all our hearts, and having implored his help we passed on undiscovered, and came so near that we even heard the Indians talking. We then deemed it time to announce ourselves, as we did by a cry which we raised with all our strength, and then halted without advancing any farther. At this cry the Indians rushed out of their cabins, and having probably recognized us as French, especially seeing a black gown, or at least having no reason to distrust us, seeing we were but two and had made known our coming, they deputed four old men to come and speak to us. Two carried tobacco pipes well adorned and trimmed with many kinds of feathers. They marched slowly, lifting their pipes toward the sun, as if offering them to it to smoke, but yet without uttering a single word. They were a long time coming the

little way from the village to us. Having reached us at last they stopped to consider us attentively.

"I now took courage, seeing these ceremonies, which are used by them only with friends, and still more on seeing them covered with stuffs which made me judge them to be allies. I therefore spoke to them first, and asked them who they were. They answered that they were Illinois, and in token of peace they presented their pipes to smoke. They then invited us to their village, where all the tribe awaited us with impatience. These pipes for smoking are called in this country calumet, a word that is so much in use that I shall be obliged to employ it in order to be understood, as I shall have to speak it frequently.

"At the door of the cabin in which we were to be received was an old man awaiting us in a very remarkable posture, which is their usual ceremony in receiving a stranger. This man was standing perfectly naked, with his hands stretched out and raised toward the sun, as if he wished to screen himself from its rays, which, nevertheless, passed through his fingers to his face. When we came near him he paid us this compliment, 'How beautiful is the sun, O Frenchmen, when thou comest to visit us! All our town awaits thee and thou shalt enter into all our cabins in peace.' He then took us to his, where there was a crowd of people, who devoured us with their eyes, but kept a profound silence. We heard, however, these words addressed to us occasionally: 'Well done, brother, to visit us.' As soon as we had taken our places in the cabin, they showed us the usual civilities, the presenting of the calumet. You must not refuse unless you would pass for an enemy, at least for being very impolite. It is enough, however, to pretend to smoke. While all the old men smoked after us to honor us, some came to invite us, on behalf of the great Sachem of the Illinois, to proceed to his town, where he wished to hold a council with us. We went with a good retinue, for all the people who had never seen a Frenchmen among them could not tire looking at us; they threw themselves on the grass near us by the wayside; then ran ahead of us; they threw themselves in front of us, and turned back to look at us again. All this was done without noise, and with the marks of great respect and entertained us well.

"Having arrived at the great Sachem's town, we espied him at his cabin door between two old men; all three standing naked, with their calumets turned toward the sun. He harangued us in a few words to congratulate on our arrival, and then presented us his calumet and made us smoke; at the same time we entered his cabin, where we received all their usual greetings. Seeing all assembled and in silence, I spoke to them by four presents which I

made them take. By the first, I said that we marched in peace to visit the nations on the river to the sea; by the second, I declared to them that God, their creator, had pity on them, since after having been so long ignorant of Him, He wished to become known to all nations; that I was sent on His behalf with that design; that it was for them to acknowledge and obey Him; by the third, that the great chief of the French informed them that he spread peace everywhere, and had overcome the Iroquois; lastly, by the fourth, we begged them to give us all the information they had of the sea, and of all nations through which we should have to pass to reach it.

"When I had finished my speech, the Sachem rose, and laying his hand on the head of a little slave whom he was about to give us, spoke thus: 'I thank thee, Black-gown, and thee, Frenchman,' addressing M. Jollyinget, 'for taking so much pains to come to visit us. Never has our river been so calm, nor so free from rocks, which your canoes have removed as they passed; never has our tobacco had so fine a flavor, nor our corn appeared so beautiful as we behold it today. Here is my son, that I give thee that thou mayest know my heart. I pray thee take pity on me and all my nation. Thou knowest the Great Spirit who has made us all; thou speakest to him and hearest his word; ask him to give me life and health, and come and dwell with us that we may know him.' Saying this, he placed the little slave near us, and made us a second present, an all mysterious calumet, which they value more than a slave. By this present he showed us his esteem for our governor, after the account we had given of him. By the third, he begged us, on behalf of the whole nation, not to proceed farther on account of the great dangers to which we exposed ourselves.

"I replied that I did not fear death, and that I esteemed no happiness greater than that of losing my life for the glory of Him who made us all. But these poor people could not understand. The council was followed by a great feast which consisted of four courses, which we had to take with all their ways. The first course was a great wooden dish full of sagamity—that is to say, of Indian meal boiled in water and seasoned with grease. The master of ceremonies, with a spoonful of sagamity, presented it three or four times to the mouth, as we would do with a little child; he did the same to M. Jollyinget. For the second course, containing three fish, he took some pains to remove the bones, and having blown upon it to cool it, put it in my mouth, as we would food to a bird. For the third course they produced a large dog which they had just killed, but learning that we did not eat it, withdrew it. Finally, the fourth course was a piece of wild ox, the fattest portions of which were put into our mouths.

"We took leave of our Illinois about the end of June, and embarked in sight of all the tribe, who admire our canoes, having never seen the like.

"As we were discoursing, while sailing gently down a beautiful, still, clear water, we heard the noise of a rapid into which we were about to fall. I have seen nothing more frightful; a mass of large trees, entire with branches—real floating islands—came rushing from the mouth of the river Pekitanoui so impetuously that we could not, without great danger, expose ourselves to cross over it. The agitation was so great that the water was all muddy and could not get clear.

"After having made about twenty leagues due south and a little less to the southeast, we came to the river called Ouabouskigon, the mouth of which is thirty-six degrees north. [This was the Wabash river.] This river comes from the country on the east inhabited by the Chaouanous, in such numbers that they reckon as many as twenty-three villages in one district, and fifteen in another, lying quite near each other. They are by no means warlike and are the people the Iroquois go far in order to wage an unprovoked war upon them; and as these poor people cannot defend themselves they allow themselves to be taken and carried off like sheep, and, innocent as they are, do not fail to experience the barbarity of the Iroquois who burn them cruelly.

"Having arrived about a half league from Akansea [Arkansas] river we saw two canoes coming towards us. The commander was standing up, holding in his hand a calumet, with which he made signs according to the customs of the country. He approached us, singing quite agreeably, and invited us to smoke, after which he presented us some saginity and bread made of Indian corn, of which we ate a little. We fortunately found among them a man we brought from Mitchigamen. By means of him I first spoke to the assembly by ordinary presents. They admired what I told them of God and the mysteries of our holy faith, and showed a great desire to keep me with them to instruct them.

"We then asked them what they knew of the sea; they replied they were only ten days' journey from it (we could have made the distance in five days): that they did not know the nations who inhabited it, because their enemies prevented their commerce with these Europeans: that the Indians with fire-arms whom we had met were their enemies, who cut off the passage to the sea, and prevented their making an acquaintance with Europeans, or having commerce with such nation; that besides, we should expose ourselves greatly by passing out on the river. Since being armed, and used to war, we could not, without danger, advance on that river which they constantly occupy.



"In the evening the Sachems held a secret council on the design of some to kill us for plunder, but the chief broke up all these schemes, and sending for us, danced the calumet in presence, and then, to remove all fears, presented it to me.

"M. Jolliet and I held another council to deliberate on what we should do, whether we should push on, or rest satisfied with the discovery we had made. After having attentively considered that we were not far from the gulf of Mexico, the basin of which is thirty-one degrees north, and we at thirty-three degrees; so that we could not be more than three days' journey; that the Mississippi undoubtedly had its mouth in Florida or the Gulf of Mexico, and not on the east in Virginia, whose sea-coast is thirty-four degrees north, which we had passed, without yet having reached the sea, nor on the western side in California, because that would require a westerly, or west southwest course, and we had always been going south. We considered, moreover, that we risked losing the fruit of the voyage, of which we could give no information, if we should throw ourselves into the hands of the Spaniards, who would undoubtedly at least hold us prisoners. Besides it was clear that we were in no position to resist Indians allied to Europeans, numerous and expert in the use of fire-arms, who continually infested the lower part of the river. Lastly, we had gathered all the information that could be gained from the expedition. All these reasons induced us to return. This was announced to the Indians, and after a day's rest prepared for it.

"After a month's navigation down the Mississippi, from the forty-second to the thirty-fourth degree, and after having published the gospel as well as I could to the nations I met, we left the village of Akansea on the 17th of July, to retrace our steps. We accordingly ascended the Mississippi, which gave us great trouble to stem its currents. We left it indeed about the thirty-eighth degree, to enter another river (the Illinois), which greatly shortened our way, and brought us little trouble, we soon arriving to the lake of the Illinois.

"We had seen nothing like this river, for the fertility of the land, its prairies, woods, wild cattle, stag, deer, wild-cats, bustards, swans, ducks, parrots, and even beaver; its many little lakes and rivers. That on which we sailed is broad, deep and gentle for sixty-five leagues. During the spring and part of the summer, the only portage is half a league.

"We found there an Illinois town called Kaskaski, composed of seventy-four cabins; they received us well, and compelled me to promise them to return and instruct them. One of the chiefs of this tribe, with his young men,

escorted us to Illinois lake, whence at last we returned in the close of September to the Bay of the Fetid (Green bay), whence we had set out in the beginning of June. Had all this voyage caused but the salvation of one soul, I should deem all my fatigue well repaid, and this I have reason to think, for when I was returning, I passed by the Indians of Peoria. I was there three days announcing the faith in their cabins, after which, as we were embarking, they brought me, on the water's edge, a dying child, which I baptized a little before it expired, by an admirable providence for the salvation of that innocent soul."

Count Frontenac, writing from Quebec to M. Colbert, minister at Paris, announces that "Sr. Joliet, whom Monsieur Talon advised me, on my arrival from France, to dispatch for the discovery of the South sea, has returned three months ago. He has discovered some very fine countries, and a navigation so easy through beautiful rivers he has found, that a person can go from Lake Ontario in a bark to the Gulf of Mexico, there being only one carrying place found (around Niagara Falls), where Lake Ontario communicates with Lake Erie. I send you by my secretary, the map which Sr. Joliet has made of the Great river he has discovered, and the observations he has been able to recollect, as he lost all his minutes and journals in the shipwreck he suffered within sight of Montreal, where, after having a completed voyage of twelve hundred leagues, he was near being drowned, and lost all his papers and a little Indian whom he brought from those countries. These accidents have caused me great regret."

#### LA SALLE'S EXPLORATIONS.

Governor Frontenac of Quebec selected La Salle to take command of Fort Frontenac, near Kingston, on the St. Lawrence river, at that time a dilapidated, wooden structure on the frontier of Canada. La Salle remained in Canada about nine years, acquiring knowledge of the Indians, their manners, languages, etc. He then returned to France and presented a petition to the King, in which he urged the necessity of maintaining Frontenac, which he offered to restore with a structure of stone; to keep there a garrison equal to the one in Montreal; to employ as many as fifteen laborers during the first year; to clear and till the land, and to supply the surrounding Indian villages with Recollect missionaries in furtherance of the cause of religion, all at his own expense, on condition that the King would grant him the right of seignior and a monopoly of the trade incident to it. He further petitioned for

title of nobility in consideration of voyages he had already made in Canada, at his own expense and which had resulted in great benefit to the King's colony. The King heard the petition graciously, and on May 13, 1675, granted La Salle and his heirs Fort Frontenac, with four leagues of the adjacent country along the lakes and rivers above and below the fort and a half league inward, and the adjacent islands, with the right of hunting and fishing on Lake Ontario and the near-by rivers. The same day he issued La Salle a title making him a nobleman, having, as the King declared, been informed of the worthy deeds performed by the people, either in reducing or civilizing the savages or in defending themselves against their frequent insults, especially of the Iroquois, etc. He left France armed with these precious documents and repaired to Canada, where he performed the conditions imposed by the terms of his titles. He sailed for France again in 1677, and in the following year, after he and Colbert had finally matured their plans, he again petitioned the King for a license to prosecute further discoveries. The King granted his request, giving him a permit, under date of May 12, 1678, to endeavor to discover the western part of New France; the King avowing in the letters patent that he had "nothing more at heart than the discovery of that country where there is a prospect of finding a way to penetrate Mexico," and authorizing La Salle to prosecute discoveries, and construct forts in such places as he might think necessary, and enjoy there the same monopoly as at Fort Frontenac on condition that the enterprise should be conducted at La Salle's expense and completed within five years; and that he should not trade with the savages, who carried their peltries and beavers to Montreal; and that the governor, intendant, justices and other officers of the King in New France, through the Prince de Conti, was introduced to one Henri de Tonti, an Italian by birth, who for eight years had been in the French service. Having had one of his hands shot off while in Sicily, he repaired to France to seek employment. It was a most fortunate meeting. Tonti—a name that should be prominently associated with discoveries in this part of America—became La Salle's companion.

Supplied with this new grant of enlarged powers, La Salle, in company with Tonti, and thirty men, comprising pilots, sailors, carpenters and other mechanics, with a supply of material necessary for the intended expedition, left France for Quebec. Here the party was joined by some Canadians, and the whole force was sent forward to Fort Frontenac, at the outlet of Lake Ontario, since this fort had been granted to La Salle. He had, in conformity to the terms of his letters patent, greatly enlarged and strengthened its

defenses. Here he met Louis Hennepin, a Franciscan friar, whom it seems had been sent hither, along with Father Gabriel de la Ribourde, all of the same religious order, to accompany La Salle's expedition. In the meantime Hennepin was occupied in pastoral labors among the soldiers of the garrison and the people of the little hamlet of peasants nearby, and proselyting the Indians of the neighboring country. Hennepin, from his own account, had not only traveled over several parts of Europe before coming to Canada, but since his arrival in America had spent much time in roaming about among the savages, to gratify his love of adventure and acquire knowledge.

Hennepin's name and writings are so prominently connected with the history of the Mississippi valley and withal, his contradictory statements, made at a later date of his life, as to the extent of his own travels, have so clouded his reputation with grave doubt as to his regard to truth, that we will give no sketch of his life and travels, to speak of. His first work is generally regarded as authentic. That he did go up the Mississippi river there seems no controversy, while grave doubts prevail as to many statements in his last publication, which would otherwise pass without suspicion were they not found in company with statements known to be untrue.

In the preface of his work, published in 1697, Father Hennepin assigns as a reason why he did not publish his descent of the Mississippi river in his volume issued in 1683, "that I was obliged to say nothing of the course of the Mississippi, from the mouth of the Illinois down to the sea, for fear of disobliging M. La Salle, with whom I began my discovery. This gentleman alone would have the glory of having discovered the course of that river. But when he heard that I had done it two years before him he could never forgive me, though, as I have said, I was so modest as to publish nothing of it. This was the true cause of his malice against me and of the barbarous usage I met with in France."

Still his description of places he did visit; the aboriginal names and manners and customs of the Indians, and other facts which he had no motive to misrepresent, are generally agreed upon as true in his last, as well as in his first, publication. His works are indeed the only repositories of many interesting particulars relating to the Northwest, and authors quote from him, some indiscriminately and others with more caution, while all criticise him without measure. Hennepin, known as "Father Hennepin," was born in Belgium in 1640 and died at Utrecht, Holland, within a few years after the publication of his last book.



## LA SALLE'S OPERATIONS.

La Salle brought up the St. Lawrence to Fort Frontenac the anchors, cordage and other material to be used in the vessel which he designed to construct above the Niagara Falls, for navigating the western lakes. He already had three small vessels on Lake Ontario, which he had made use of in a coasting trade with the Indians. One of these, a brigantine of ten tons, was loaded with his effects; his men, including Fathers Gabriel, Zenobius Membre and Hennepin, who were commissioned with care of the spiritual direction of the expedition, were placed aboard, and November 18th the vessel sailed westward for the Niagara river. They kept the northern shore, and run into land and bartered for corn with the Iroquois at one of their villages, situated where Toronto, Canada, is located, and for fear of being frozen in the river, which here empties into the lake, had to cut the ice from about their ship. Detained by adverse winds, they remained here until the wind was favorable, when they sailed across the end of the lake and found anchorage in the mouth of Niagara river on December 6th. The season was far advanced and the ground covered with snow fully a foot deep. Large masses of ice were floating and it became necessary to protect the ship, hence it was drawn up against the current, by means of strong cables, and finally dragged to the shore. A cabin, to protect with palisades, for shelter and to serve as a magazine to store supplies in, was also constructed. The ground was frozen so hard that it had to be thawed out with boiling water before the men could drive the stakes. La Salle now commenced to plan for his new boat. The ground was cleared away, trees felled, and carpenters were set to work January 26th, and some of the plank being ready to fasten on, La Salle drove the first spike. As the work progressed La Salle made several trips, over snow and ice, for the purpose of hurrying matters along by securing his needed materials. One of his vessels was lost on Lake Ontario, heavily laden with a cargo of valuable supplies, through the fault or wilful perversity of her pilot. The Iroquois Indians were causing La Salle all kinds of trouble and these savage depredations, want of wholesome food, the loss of the vessel on the lake, and a refusal of the neighboring tribes to sell any more store of their corn, reduced the party to such extremities that the ship-carpenters tried to run away. They were finally persuaded to remain and prosecute the work. Six months later the new boat was finished, and had been set afloat even prior to that time, to avoid the designs of the Indians. She was sixty tons burden, and called the "Griffin." It was not until August,

1679, that her canvas was spread and the pilot, steering by the compass, with La Salle and his thirty or more men, sailed out westward upon the unknown, silent waters of Lake Erie. Three days' sailing brought them to the mouth of the Detroit river. Father Hennepin was fairly delighted with the country along the river last mentioned. So charmed was he that he undertook to persuade La Salle to settle at "De Troit." But La Salle would not listen to his plea, but steadily pressed onward and after nearly being shipwrecked in a storm, he finally reached the island of Mackinaw. La Salle, it must be remembered, had two objects—first, his interest in the commerce of the new, wild country, the purchase of valuable furs, and secondly, his interest in making discoveries and explorations for his King, as he had contracted to do. Here La Salle made a hasty decision that really was the worst step he ever took in his career. This was in sending the ship back down the waters of the lakes, and then himself to prosecute his voyage the rest of the way to the head of Lake Michigan in frail birchen canoes. It delayed his discoveries for two long years, brought severe hardships upon himself and greatly embarrassed all his future plans. The "Griffin" was lost, with all her cargo. She nor her crew was ever heard of after leaving the Pottawatomie islands and what became of the ship and men in charge remains a mystery to this day. La Salle himself grew into a settled conviction that the "Griffin" had been treacherously sunk by the pilot and sailors to whom he had entrusted her, and in after years thought he had found evidence that the authors of the crime, laden with the merchandise they had taken from her, had reached the Mississippi and ascended it, hoping to join De Shuteau, the famous chief of the Coureurs de Bois, and enrich themselves by traffic with the northern tribes.

The following is, in part, Hennepin's account of La Salle's voyage in canoes from the mouth of Green Bay south along the shore of Lake Michigan, past Milwaukee and Chicago and around the southern end of the lake; thence along the eastern shore to the mouth of St. Joseph river; thence up that stream to South Bend, making the portage here to the headwaters of the Kankakee; thence down the Kankakee and Illinois through Peoria lake. The privation and suffering to which La Salle and his party were exposed in navigating Lake Michigan at that early day, and late in the autumn of the year, when the waters were vexed with storms, illustrate the courage and daring of such an undertaking. Hennepin says: "We left the Pottawatomie islands to continue our voyage, being fourteen men in all, in four canoes. I had charge of the smallest, which carried five hundred weight and two men.

My companions being recently from Europe and unskilled with such boats, left me to handle the same in time of storms.

"The canoes were laden with a smith's forge, utensils, tools for carpenters, joiners and sawyers, besides our goods and arms. We steered to the south toward mainland, from which the Pottawatomie islands are distant forty leagues; but about midway, and in the night-time, we were greatly endangered by a sudden storm. The waves dashed into our faces, the night was dark and we had much difficulty in keeping our canoes together. The daylight coming on, we reached the shore, where we remained four days, waiting for the lake to grow calm. In the meantime our Indian hunter went ashore in search of game, but killing nothing other than a porcupine; this, however, made our Indian corn relishing. The weather became fair, we resumed our voyage, rowing all day and well into the night, along the western coast of the lake of Illinois. The wind again grew too fresh, and we landed upon a rocky beach where we had nothing to protect ourselves against a storm of snow and rain, except the clothing on our persons. We remained here two days for the sea to go down, having made a little fire from the wood cast ashore by the waves. We proceeded on our voyage, and toward evening the winds again forced us to the beach covered with rushes, where we remained three days; and in the meantime our provision, consisting of only pumpkins and Indian corn, purchased from the Pottawatomies, entirely gave out. Our canoes were so heavily laden that we could not carry provisions with us, and we were compelled to rely on bartering for such supplies on our way. We left this dismal place, and after rowing twelve leagues came to another Pottawatomie village, whose inhabitants stood upon the beach to receive us. But M. La Salle refused to let any one land, notwithstanding the severity of the weather, fearing some of his men might run away. We were in such great peril that La Salle flung himself into the water, after we had gone three leagues farther, and, with the aid of three men, carried the canoe of which he had charge upon their shoulders, otherwise it would have been broken to pieces by the waves. We were obliged to do the same with the other canoes. I myself carried the good Father Gabriel upon my back, his age being so well advanced as not to admit of his venturing in the water. We took ourselves to a piece of rising ground to avoid surprise, as we had no manner of acquaintance with the great number of savages whose village was so near at hand. We sent three men into the village to buy provisions, under the protection of the calumet ("pipe-of-peace"), which the Indians had presented us as a means of introduction to, and a measure of safety against other tribes that we might meet on our way."

Father Hennepin continues: "Our three men, carrying the calumet and being well armed, went to the little village about three leagues from the place we had landed; they found no one at home, for the inhabitants, having heard that we refused to land at the other village, supposed we were enemies and had abandoned their habitations. In their absence our men took some of their corn, and left instead some goods, to let them know we were neither enemies nor robbers. Twenty of the inhabitants of this village came to our encampment on the beach, armed with axes, small guns, bows, and a sort of a club, which in their language, means a head-breaker. La Salle, with four well-armed men, advanced toward them for the purpose of opening a conversation. He requested them to come near us, saying he had a party of hunters out who might come across them and take their lives. They came forward and took seats at the foot of an eminence, where we were encamped, and La Salle amused them with the relation of his voyage, which he informed them he had undertaken for their advantage and thus occupied their time until the arrival of the three men who had been sent out with the calumet, on seeing which the savages gave a great shout, arose to their feet and danced about. We excused our men from having taken some of their corn, and informed them that we had left its true value in goods; they were so well pleased with this that they immediately sent for more corn, and on the next day they made us a gift of as much as we could conveniently carry in our canoes.

"The next morning the old men of the tribe came to us with their calumet of peace, and entertained us with a free offering of wild goats, which their own hunters had taken. In return, we presented them with our thanks, accompanied with some axes, knives, and several little toys for their wives, with all which they were very much pleased. We left this place the following morning and soon encountered a four-days storm.

"November 1st we again embarked on the lake and came to the mouth of the Miamis, which comes from the southeast and falls into the lake."

La Salle and his party entered Kaskaska village, near Peoria lake, April 8, 1677. The Indians gave him hearty welcome and flocked from all directions to the town to hear the "Black Gown" relate the truths of Christianity. December 3, 1679, the explorers embarked, being in all thirty-three men and eight canoes. They left the lake of Illinois and went up the river of the Miamis, which they had before made soundings of. Hennepin says: "We made about five and twenty leagues southward, but failed to discover the place where we were to land, and carry our canoes and effects into the river



of Illinois, which falls into that of the Mississippi. We had already gone beyond the portage, and, not knowing where we were, we thought proper to remain there, as we were expecting M. La Salle, who had taken to the land to view the country. He was lost for a time, but finally came to the rest of his company."

La Salle then rebuilt Fort Miamis and finally abandoned his voyage down the Mississippi by sailing boats and concluded to go by ordinary wooden pirogues or canoes. Tonti was sent forward to Chicago creek, where he constructed a number of sledges. After other preparations had been made, La Salle and his party left St. Joseph, came around the lake, and placed their effects in sledges. His party consisted of twenty-three Frenchmen and eighteen Indians. The savages took with them ten squaws and three children, making in all fifty-four persons. They had to make the portage of the Chicago river. After dragging their canoes, sledges, baggage and provisions, about eighty leagues over the ice, on the Desplaines and Illinois rivers, they came to an old Indian town. The expedition continued down, as fast as weather would permit, to the Mississippi. Bearing down that wonderful stream, they finally, on April 6th, came to the place into where the river begins to divide into several channels and empty into the gulf of Mexico. La Salle, in a canoe, coasted the borders of the sea, and then the parties assembled on a dry spot of ground, not far from the mouth of the river. On April 9th, with all the pomp and ceremony of the Holy Catholic church, La Salle, in the name of the King of France, took possession of the Mississippi and all its tributaries. The entire party, civilized and savage, present with the expedition fired their guns and shouted, "Vive le Rio." La Salle planted the column, at the same time proclaiming, in a loud voice, "In the name of the Most High, Mighty, Invincible and Victorious Prince, Louis the Great, by the Grace of God, King of France and of Navarre; fourteenth of that name, I, this ninth day of April, one thousand six hundred and eighty-two, in virtue of the commission of his Majesty and his successors to the crown, take possession of this country of Louisiana, the seas, harbors, ports, bays, adjacent straits, and all the people, nations, provinces, cities, towns, villages, mines, minerals, fisheries, streams and rivers within the extent of the said Louisiana, from the mouth of the great river St. Louis, otherwise called Ohio, as also along the river Colbert, or Mississippi, and the rivers that discharge themselves therein from its source beyond the country of the Sioux, as far as its mouth at the sea, and also to the mouth of the river Palms, upon the assurance we have had from the natives of these countries that we were the first

Europeans who have descended or ascended the river Colbert (Mississippi) : hereby protesting against all who may hereafter undertake to invade any or all of these aforesaid countries, peoples or lands, to the prejudice of His Majesty, acquired by the consent of the nations dwelling herein. Of which, and of all else that is needful, I hereby take to witness those who hear me, and demand an act of the notary here present."

At the foot of the tree to which the cross was attached La Salle caused to be buried a leaden plate, on the one side of which were engraven the arms of France, and on the opposite, the following Latin inscription :

"Louis the Great reigns. Robert Cavalier, with Lord Tonti as lieutenant, R. P. Zenobe Membre, Recollect, and twenty-two Frenchmen, first navigated this stream from the country of the Illinois, and also passed through its mouth, on the 9th of April, 1682."

Thus was completed the discovery and taking possession of the Mississippi valley, and France became the rightful owner of all that section of the country known as such now, including the states of Illinois and Indiana—in fact all that country bounded on the east by the Alleghanies and extending west to the Rocky mountains. Had France, with the same energy she pursued in discovering Louisiana, retained her grasp upon this territory, the dominant race in the valley of the Mississippi would have been Gallic instead of Anglo-Saxon.

From this period until 1698 the French made no further attempts to colonize the lower Mississippi. They had no settlements below the Ohio, and above the Illinois river and in the lake regions they had only a chain of forts or posts. The next move on the part of France was to grant to Crozat in September, 1712, a monopoly on all the domain above described. This grant was by Louis XIV, and Crozat failed after three years and, about 1717, surrendered his grant back to the King of France and the same year the King turned the possessions all over to "The Mississippi Company," later styled the "Company of the Indies." The head of this company was John Law, a famous Scotch banker, a regular "get-rich-quick" style of a man. By this company, however signally it finally failed, it did colonize and till the soil and erect forts and trading posts. It had its day and in 1731 the Indies Company surrendered to France, Louisiana, with its forts, plantations, colonies, etc., and from this time forward to the conquest of Great Britain the domain was governed by French appointed officers. France held possession to the country in question until the Revolutionary struggle, which involved the colonies and France, as well as the supposed right of Indian tribes. After

hostilities had ceased between Great Britain and America, though the treaty of Paris was not concluded until February, 1783, the most essential parts of which are contained in the following extracts:

"In order to establish peace on solid and durable foundations, and to remove forever all subjects of dispute with regard to the lines of the limits of the British and French territories on the continent of America, it is agreed that for the future the confines between the dominions of his Brittanic Majesty and those of His Most Christian Majesty in that part of the world, shall be fixed irrevocably by a line drawn along the middle of the river Mississippi from its source to the river Iberville, and from thence by a line drawn along the middle of the river and the lakes Maurepas and Pontchartrain, to the sea; and for this purpose the most Christian King cedes in full right, and guarantees to his Brittanic Majesty the river and port of Mobile, and everything which he possesses, or ought to possess, on the left side of the Mississippi, with the exception of the town of New Orleans and of the island on which it is situated it being well understood that the navigation of the Mississippi shall be equally free, as well to the subjects of Great Britain as to those of France, in its whole length and breadth, from its source to the sea."

With the termination of the Revolution, and the success of the American colonies, England had to yield its claim on this territory, and emigration commenced pouring into the Northwest Territory, until it had become large enough in population to be divided into smaller territories. The act of Congress of the United States making such first division was dated May 7, 1800, and this subdivision included what is now the state of Indiana.

#### FORMATION OF COUNTIES.

In 1828 the general government purchased the "ten mile strip" along the northern end of the state, and in 1832 extinguished the remaining claims of the Indians, save the numerous reservations in the northern part. In 1835 the greater part of the natives were removed west of the Mississippi, and in 1840 all save a few had emigrated from special reservations. As the state was thus left free for settlement, the surveyor pioneered the advancing civilization, and counties were rapidly organized in response to the growing demand of the increasing population. The tide of immigration came principally from the South at first, and later from the East, the organization of counties giving a pretty clear indication of the nature of this development. At the organization of the state government, fifteen counties had been formed, and others were organized as follows: 1817, Daviess, Pike, Jennings, Sul-

livan; 1818, Crawford, Dubois, Lawrence, Monroe, Randolph, Ripley, Spencer, Vanderburg, Vigo; 1819, Fayette, Parke, Union; 1822, Decatur, Marion, Morgan, Putnam, Rush, Shelby; 1823, Hamilton, Johnson, Madison, Montgomery; 1824, Allen, Hendricks, Vermillion; 1825, Clay; 1826, Delaware, Fountain, Tippecanoe; 1828, Carroll, Hancock, Warren; 1829, Cass; 1830, Boone, Clinton, Elkhart, St. Joseph; 1831, Grant; 1832, LaGrange, LaPorte; 1834, Huntington, White; 1835, Miami, Wabash; 1836, Adams, Brown, DeKalb, Fulton, Kosciusko, Marshall, Noble, Porter; 1837, Blackford, Lake, Steuben, Wells, Jay; 1838, Jasper; 1840, Benton; 1842, Whitley; 1844, Howard, Ohio, Tipton; 1850, Starke; 1859, Newton.



## CHAPTER II.

### INDIAN OCCUPANCY AND HARRISON'S TRAIL.

At least two races of men had inhabited Parke and adjoining counties prior to the advent of white men—the red-brown savages we style Indians, and the other, that mysterious type of men and women generally called Mound Builders, and of whom we know but little, save the fact that they preceded the red man and left great memorials in the shape of mounds, in which in many instances are found tools and implements of quite a high type of civilization, much higher than those found among the Indian people when white men first visited this section. Parke county, however, was not so favorite a spot for the abiding place of this first race as was the country along the Wabash and other streams, and in Vermillion county these numerous mounds stand out as bold and impressive works of a people long since passed into death and oblivion. They were certainly a part of the great creation of man, but as to their manner of life, their aspirations and achievements and how they became extinct, not the slightest positive record has been left by them. However, those who have spent a lifetime in research claim that all evidence points to the fact that they originally came here from the far south, possibly Central America; that they were at least half civilized, and, following up the streams, built well fortified towns along them and tilled the terraced lands and “second bottoms;” that they finally became involved in a great war with the natives of this north land, and that the last of them left the Ohio and Mississippi valleys more than a thousand years ago. Certain it is that time enough has elapsed since their exodus for trees to grow up through the mounds they made and which are now more than four feet in diameter. Copper implements unknown to Indian life and industry are now and then unearthed by those in search of such relics. The next race to possess the territory included in Parke county was the North American Indian, six tribes at least of which at one time or another dwelt here. Their uniform course has been from north to south, rolling wave on wave, each invasion driving its predecessors before it, and all originating in the common center of the great Northwest. The Athabasca basin appears to be the great “northern hive” from which many Indian tribes have swarmed. So far as

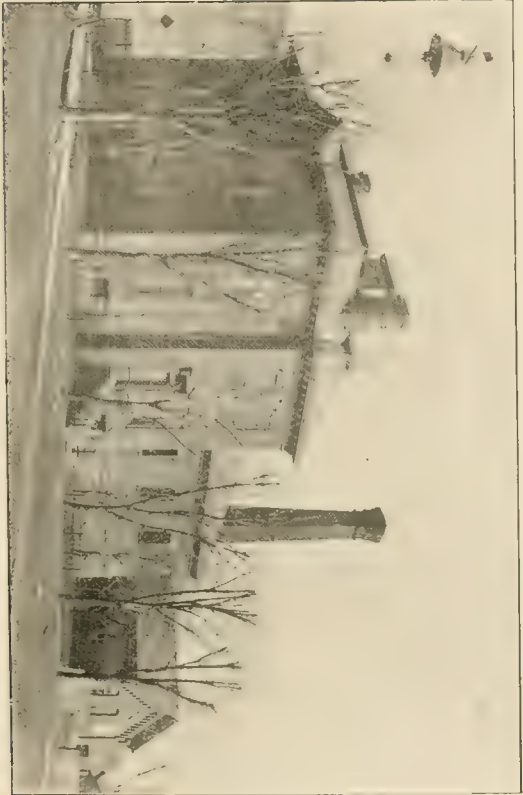
our knowledge goes the Illini tribe were driven away by the Huron-Iroquois, and tradition tells us that desperate battles ensued between these tribes along Sugar creek and the river Wabash. Next in turn, came the great nation known as the Wabash, or the Miamis. The French first met this tribe in northern Iowa; thence they came, generation after generation farther south, driving other nations before them; and as they came they divided themselves into three bands, the Weas, Miamis and Piankeshaws. The latter crossed the Wabash early in the eighteenth century and had possession on both sides from Tippecanoe to the Ohio. These may rightfully be styled our aborigines, for they and the original Miamis were the dominant tribe when the white race came here to remain. To these Indians came the French traders and missionaries even prior to 1700; posts were established, and it was not long before a mixed race arose known as the Franco-Miamis, and this was long before a word of English had ever been heard west of the Scioto. These Piankeshaws in 1705-12 had a village on Sugar creek, the stream by them called Pun-go-se-co-ne ("Water of many sugar trees"), and to that village came a young Frenchman quite early in that century, an account of which was published in 1718 by the Catholic church.

Next came the bloodthirsty Pottawatomies, which tribe originated in the wooded wilderness of the Lake Huron district, and who by successive struggles against other tribes finally succeeded, in 1790, in reaching the lower Wabash. The Miamis yielded them a share of their country, rather than engage in a war of extermination. Pushed on by the Sioux nation, the Kickapoos swept down from the north and in 1796 had a village north of the Vermillion, and in the early days were numerous on this side of the Wabash, though generally believed by pioneers to have been merely squatters among the Miamis. Next came the Shawnees, who were driven from Lake Erie by the Iroquois and fought their way by slow process to the bend of the Tennessee; thence, in turn, they were driven by the Cherokees, when they moved southeast and settled in Florida. After one generation, they again started northward, in various bands; the main one appealed to the Miamis for succor, was received by them, and soon after was permanently incorporated among the Indians of the Wabash. Shawnee creek and Prairie creek, in Fountain county, indicate one of their strongholds, but they are really known best to the whites from having produced the noted warrior Tecumseh and his brother, the Prophet. In all the negotiations with Governor Harrison, preceding the famous battle of Tippecanoe, all the other Indians insisted that the Shawnees were only squatters here and had no equal rights or title to

lands here; and to this fact, perhaps, is due the strangely conglomerate character of Tecumseh's confederacy.

The Delawares were first found by the whites on Delaware bay, where they called themselves Lenni-Lennape, or "original men," but were called by the other Indians the Wau-pan-nek-ee, and recognized as the common ancestors of the most powerful tribes of the south, including the Powhatan Indians and the Cherokees. As late as 1880, in the Indian Territory, this claim was recognized, and in the peculiar ranking of the tribes in council the Delaware sits as the grandfather. The Quakers made a treaty with them at the start, and kept it; but all the same, the Indians lost their lands, and grew poor and hostile. Thence they were pushed back, foot by foot, across the continent, till, in 1799, a treaty bearing the signature of John Adams recognized them as owners of all Indiana between the White and Ohio rivers. They still fell back slowly, and from 1800 to 1820 were numerous in Parke county; but about the time our pioneers came they were concentrating near the middle of the state, which was their last stronghold in Indiana. Among their chiefs who figured in this region was Captain Anderson. Such were the various tribes who contributed to form the Indian population of this valley, and thus it was that our pioneers saw individuals of all these tribes, the Piankeshaw-Miamis being most numerous on Sugar creek and upper Raccoon, while the Weas and their conquerors were dominant along the Wabash below Montezuma.

"Such were our predecessors. Their names we know, their fate we know and something of their habits; but fancy strives in vain to portray the country as it looked to their eyes. The change has been too great for us. To see it as it was then is impossible. The traveler who now enters this county on either of our railroads is whirled along in soothing motion through sylvan scenes, which disclose every moment a new beauty. Now from the car window he looks upon a neat village where, in happy homes, the fair little Saxons play in secured peace; now he looks upon a well-kept farm, its granaries full and its owner busy among his flocks and herds or in his well-tilled fields. Again he sees the open groves where blooded stock grazes in peaceful content; and yet again the dark green woods and open vista beyond which shows the home-like farm house, set in elegant shrubbery and surrounded by the charming blue grass. Here he sees the indications of a coal mine; there of a rock quarry and yonder other marks of an industrious race. And again he passes for miles through gently rolling fields whence comes the scent of clover or new-mown hay, and is cheered by the rattle of the reaper



PARKE COUNTY JAIL.





and the hum of laboring grangers. Not less does he see on every commanding point the pretty white church with heavenward-pointing spire or the district school house, or more pretentious academy.

"A hundred years ago how different the scene. An unbroken forest spread from north to south and from the eastern border to the small prairie which lines the Wabash below Montezuma. Along the highest land between the two Racoons ran an Indian trace from Weautanon, or Orchardtown (Terre Haute), to Ouiatenon. Down the Wabash came the light pirogue of the French-Canadian or the lighter canoe of the red man; and along the creeks the savages hunted or fished or idled away the long summer days. Sugar creek, from its source to its mouth, had witnessed many a hard-fought battle between Indian tribes who contended for its possession, but now the Miamis band held it in peace. They found in its waters, alive with fish, an unfailing resource when game was scarce. From the mouth of the Leatherwood to the Wabash extended a straggling village of Wea-miamis, at the head of which in later years was a chief with an unpronounceable name whom the whites familiarly called Johnny Green. On Sugar creek, we know not exactly where, was another village, and along Big Raccoon were a few small settlements, inhabited only in winter. Sugar creek through its upper course ran then, as now, between bold and rock bluffs, but no other creek in the county was anything like it is now. They consisted rather of long, deep ponds connected with shallow ripples, and Big Raccoon through much of its lower course had no defined channel. Beaver dams and immense drifts obstructed its course, and for miles in a place the stream extended almost from bluff to bluff, a long swamp with a slow current. Indeed, as late as 1850, many of the creeks in this county had a more uniform volume of water in summer than now, and contained many long, deep pools joined by ripples; and the Wabash remained navigable till late in the summer for Ohio steamers. None of the streams rose so suddenly, or so high as now, and none fell so low in the summer. The Wabash had at least twice the summer volume it now has, and even such small streams as Mill creek. This was also true of Williams creek and Rock run, each and all being good fishing runs and remained good mill streams till 1830-40. The rain fall of the year has not decreased, but it was then more evenly distributed in time. The further change is accounted for by the clearing of the land and the draining of the swamps, allowing the falling rains to discharge more rapidly. Such were a few of the features of the county a hundred years ago."—From the pen of J. H. Beadle.

Thirty-five years afterward considerable change was already noticeable. Jacob, Swan and Bull, Wea chiefs, ranged from Orchardtown (Terre Haute) to Shawnee Prairie; Stone-eater had his headquarters on or just above Sugar creek, and the Dazney Indians roamed over the Raccoon prairie and thence on to Fort Harrison. The soldier, the explorer and the hunter had become acquainted with the land, and the whites of more eastern localities looked toward this section for a home-building spot. Rev. Isaac McCoy, who preached the first gospel sermon in this green, glad solitude, had invaded this region. He was a Baptist missionary and came to the Wabash valley to preach to the Indians and white men, in 1817, preaching at points as far north as the Big Raccoon. In fact, it might be stated that he could have been considered the first white settler, for he was certainly here long enough to become a settler, legally. Early in 1818 he made a location on land in the farm later owned and occupied by Mrs. Lawrence Cox, and he collected a few half-breed children and taught them English and religion. He learned the Indian dialect in order to better cope with the Catholic missionaries who spoke that language, especially among the Miamis. A few Christianized Indians came from Brothertown, New York, and assisted him. In 1819 Mr. McCoy married the first couple ever united in Parke county. His diary says:

"On the 16th of February I joined in marriage Mary Ann Isaacs, of the Brothertown Indians, who had been spending a few weeks at our house, to Christmas Dashney, a half-breed Wea."

Historian Beadle, so well known in Indiana, said of this faithful missionary of the Cross: "Mr. McCoy continued his labors in this county till 1822-3; and his journal tells of struggle against struggle and continued disappointment; of loving care for converts demoralized by the whisky of white men; of toilsome journeys to Indian camps; of cold nights in the lonely woods; of shivering days in wet brush; of insults and rebuffs; of hunger and foul weather. He was a gentleman of culture and of pleasing address, and soon learned to speak the Indian dialect fluently. He was assisted, now and then, by other teachers and preachers, including Mr. Martin and Johnston Lykens. With a large family he followed the Indians, even to Michigan, seeing them die off like sheep from the effect of white man's whisky. Thence he followed them to Indian Territory, about 1830, and saw the remnant of the tribe attached to the Cherokee nation. He had fought a long, hard fight and lost, as the world would say; he had attached himself to a dying race, and neither prayers nor tears nor much labor could arrest their inevitable decay. Nay, the destiny of the race seemed even to his friends to be death;

one by one, he saw his ten children sicken and die, and in his old age, lonely and poor, he calls upon God to attest the rectitude of his intentions and save a few witnesses for him out of the many for whom he had toiled. And at the last he saw an Indian church formed on an apparently sure foundation in Oklahoma."

It would seem that this was a part of God's great plan—the red man must needs become extinct and the higher race, the white, must perfect the plans of an All-wise Providence. If so, then God will retrieve and make right all these seeming wrongs between the two races. In that other and eternal existence, such characters as Missionary Isaac McCoy and John Elliott, Las Casas and William Penn must be permitted to rejoice with the once sad victims of civilization, and go out to suffer no more for ever.

After the period just named came the battle of Tippecanoe, in November, 1811; then the war of 1812 with England. In October, 1818, the Indians signed the treaty of St. Mary's (Ohio), by which they ceded all of these lands north of the "ten o'clock line," except the "Sugar Creek Reserve," and early in 1819 William Polk surveyed the eastern portion of Parke county and ran the line of the Reserve, as "provided by law," completing his work in August. The eastern line of the reserve was not, however, cardinal; it ran from Raccoon to Sugar creek in a line a little east of north, passing two miles west of Rockville. It was provided by law that this should remain a reserve, and the timber thereon be protected and the Indians guaranteed peaceable possession "until such time as the United States shall make further and permanent provision for the Confederated Weas and Miamis; provided, that Christmas Dazney, on account of important public services, shall be entitled in fee simple to one section of said reserve, to be by him selected." This section Mr. Dazney chose near Stringtown, as it was called, now Armiesburg, and old settlers a third of a century knew it as the Dazney farm. Thereafter the land below the line was known as Old Purchase, and that above as New Purchase; nor was Sugar Creek Reserve formally opened to settlement till 1823, when William Bentley surveyed it into sections.

On his way to Tippecanoe county, General Harrison, in 1811, with nearly one thousand United States troops, crossed the Raccoon creek in Wabash township, this county, and camped for the night.



## THE GENERAL HARRISON TRAIL.

When General Harrison left Vincennes in November, 1811, to proceed against the Indians in what is now Tippecanoe county, and which campaign resulted in the triumphant battle of Tippecanoe, on the morning of November 7, 1811, he took between eight and nine hundred soldiers of the United States army and marched under the guide and trusty scout, Zachariah Cicott. He entered what is now known as Mound township, Warren county, thence passed northward through Kent township, encamping first (in that county) in a small grove, and there on his return trip, after the battle, buried two or three soldiers who had been wounded at Tippecanoe. Their resting place is at what is now called Gopher Hill cemetery, about two miles to the southeast of State Line village. From that point the army resumed their march northeast and passed by the huge boulder, which until recent years stood in the highway on the old Hunter farm, between sections 19 and 30, township 21, range 9 west. This was an immense granite boulder and if it had not thoughtlessly been blasted and removed would doubtless today have a suitable inscription on its rustic surface, making a permanent landmark for all generations to come, showing just where Harrison and his army passed. The second encampment in Warren county was made just across the Big Pine creek, east, and "about eleven miles from its mouth into river Wabash." This is known now as "Army Ford," and there seems to be two theories as to where the army really did cross this creek, but the generally accepted one is that his crossing was made above where Honey creek comes into Big Pine creek, and in the center of section 9, township 22, range 8 west, on lands now owned by Scott Brier, a descendant of one of the first settlers, and who, with his neighbors, has always called this the crossing place of the army. It is in Liberty township. This seemed to be the belief of Judge Isaac Naylor, who wrote on this theme many years since, and he was with Cicott after the war of 1812 and went over the trail and noted the camping places.

The other theory (we give it for what it is worth) is that it was in the southwest quarter of section 4 in the same township and range, less than a mile to the northwest. But there seems little good evidence that this is correct.

From that point—"Army Ford," wherever that may have been—the line of march was taken up and pursued in a northeastern direction, directly to where the battle was fought in Tippecanoe county, passing through the corner of Pine township, diagonally northeast through Adams township,

cutting the northwest corner of Medina township, thence on into Tippecanoe county.

It should be added that on the march back from Tippecanoe to Vincennes, Harrison lost a man named Drummond, who was buried near the camping place on Big Pine creek. The grandsons of pioneer settlers remember the grave well and frequently tell strangers of its loneliness, at an early day. This soldier, with probably the three buried at what is Gopher Hill cemetery, were the only ones who died from wounds en route to Vincennes, and to their graves there should be placed an appropriate tablet or monument, either by Warren county or by the general government, the brave men certainly deserving of such recognition, even at this late day.

#### GEOLOGY OF PARKE COUNTY.

Parke county is based on a regular slope from east to west. Along the eastern border of the county the under-coal limestone crops out, being the bed-rock of Big Raccoon at intervals for ten miles. Thence westward, then through what may well be styled the basin rock of the county, with a tolerably regular slope for fifteen to twenty feet to the mile, passing some distance under the bed of the Wabash, and, as shown by borings made up to 1880, maintained the same westward slope to the Little Wabash river, under which it is found seven hundred feet deep. Beyond that it turns and comes up with the same regularity, again coming to the surface in western Illinois. Assuming that this was the bed of the old river in which the coal was made, Parke county lies along the east shore of what was the marsh in which the coal plant grew. The fossils, therefore, are all of the coal period—at least in the western part of this county. The huge reptiles and mammals lived in the next succeeding ages. The largest of these fossils now unearthed are a species of the “goose-necked lizard” and some detached bones of an American mastodon. As most of this county was filled with made or solid land before the coal period ended, it follows that all the rock-in-place is of the sandstone shale and lime-rock of the coal measures, but on that there is an immense thickness of drift and the soil is from the wear of the crystalized Canadian rocks. For these reasons there is an inexhaustible fertility directly over immense beds of coal, with an abundance of good building stone and the finest of pure water from springs and wells. As the larger streams, in their passage across the county, have to cut down from the high levels of the limestone foundation to the level of the river Wabash, there appear wild, precipitous bluffs, presenting some of the finest scenery in all Indiana.

## CHAPTER III

### PIONEER SETTLEMENT OF PARKE COUNTY.

The contents of this chapter are believed to be substantially all that is necessary in order to give the reader a comprehensive account of the first settlement of what is now known as Parke county, Indiana. Not that it contains in minute detail the circumstances surrounding the entry of land and settlement of each actual settler in pioneer days, but it is designed to give something in general of the pioneer band that located in various parts of the county, leaving much of detail for the different township histories. However, before entering into this task of outlining the first settlements in the county, it will be best to reproduce the views of Surveyor M. D. Buck, published in Brown's Gazetteer, in 1817, and also of the author of that work, after he had made a trip to the Wabash valley, both of whom we here quote and interweave:

"Rocky river (Sugar creek) is one hundred yards wide, at its mouth, and has several large forks. The bottoms bordering the Wabash are rich; wells have been sunk in them that showed a vegetable soil twenty-two feet deep, though the ordinary depth is from two to five feet. All the streams have spacious and fertile bottoms. The prairies in the vicinity of Fort Harrison exceed for beauty and richness everything I ever beheld. The land sells very high near Fort Harrison, for it is the most delightful situation for a town on the Wabash. The Indians camp in the woods convenient to water, where they build wigwams. While surveying in the wilderness they appeared very friendly, and offered us honey and venison. The woods abound with bears, wolves and wild turkeys. About three-eighths of the land we surveyed is excellent for most kinds of produce; the remainder is good for grazing, but too hilly, flat or wet for grain (!) Wheat grows rank, but the grain is not as plump as in New York. The difficulty is, the land is too rich until improved (!) Apple trees bear every year. Wheat is seventy-five cents a bushel. Flour is three dollars per hundred—four dollars delivered at Fort Harrison; pork four dollars; beef, the same; butter and cheese, one to two shillings. European goods exorbitantly high. Ginseng grows on the bottoms to a perfection I never witnessed. Harrison's Purchase was first

opened for sale at Jeffersonville, in September last [1816], and numerous tracts sold at from four to thirty dollars per acre. A section on the Wabash below Fort Harrison [now Terre Haute] sold at thirty-two dollars and eighteen cents per acre. The best proof of the excellence of these lands is the fact of their being the scene of numerous Indian population. Serpents are very numerous. Deer are mortal enemies of the rattlesnakes and often kill them by jumping upon them. It is also reported that the turkey buzzard has the power of killing the rattlesnake by its intolerable stench, which it most powerfully emits by a violent fluttering in the air a little above the snake's head."

To definitely locate and name the first actual white settler in this county is now impossible. It is, however, known that the Dotys, Henrys and others had come up to the line of the Old Purchase at least as early as 1818, possibly 1817. It is known that James M. Doty settled on Henry's prairie in 1818, and is by many called Parke county's first settler. At about the same date came Judge Joseph Walker, who settled in what is now Florida township, near the present town of Numa. William D. Mitchell, so long and well known in Union township, was born in Raccoon in 1818, just after his parents arrived there. Mrs. Peggy Miller, whose maiden name was Robinson, came to Fort Harrison with her parents in 1815, and was always sanguine that they moved into Parke county in 1818. James Kerr bought land in this county at the very earliest sales, either 1816 or 1817; but did not settle permanently till 1822. His wife always claimed that her family located in Parke county in 1818. Many more claim that Dr. Taylor was the first permanent pioneer settler in the county, on the upper end of Henry's Prairie, and early in 1817 or 1818. The true first settler will never be known, as no record was made of the coming of several families, all of whom constituted the first band of pioneers. It was certainly from among the families already mentioned.

Among the strong men who followed up the army and studied the country, was Capt. Andrew Brooks, Indian agent, trader and interpreter. He made numerous trips from Fort Harrison northward; whether on the prairies of the southwestern border of Parke county or in the dense woods in the center of the county, he everywhere noted the local advantages; especially did he scan the localities favorable for a good mill site, and as early as 1817 (possibly 1818) he set his eye on the bluff at the south bend of Big Raccoon. A year or so passed before he found a partner with capital sufficient to improve this water power, but fortunately he fell in with Chauncey Rose, at Fort Harrison, who became known as a distinguished pioneer and philanthropist. He was born December 17, 1794, in Weathersfield, Connecticut, and



when twenty-two years of age came to Indiana, reaching Fort Harrison (Terre Haute) early in 1817. An elder brother settled in Carolina, and advanced him some capital, and he had already shown his ability to acquire more, when he met Captain Brooks. They were kindred spirits and, together with Moses Robins, formed a partnership to establish a mill, store and distillery on Big Raccoon. While the snow was yet on the ground they left Fort Harrison, in company with a friendly Indian, made their way to the location selected, and early in 1819 broke ground for a mill and named the place Roseville.

About this time there were many of the shiftless, roaming type of men and women who came in and remained, as in all new countries, for a few years and then passed on to newer, wilder sections where they might mingle with the Indians, hunt, fish and trap, and not be held in obedience to any civil law or custom. But of these settlers no account will here be made, as they were not in any sense county or state builders, but nomadic in style and habits.

Meanwhile the business enterprise of the firm of Rose, Robins & Brooks had been completed and was running in full blast in 1819-20. The Indians came in from far and near to exchange their furs and meat for flour and whisky. Soon a second store was opened by Scott & Linton. Now came in a better, more stable class of settlers and made claim to much of the fine farming lands in the county. Just who was first to locate in the northern part of the county, no one seems able to tell, but certainly in 1819 there were several families, and in 1820 the following located in Florida and Raccoon: Judge Joseph Walker, James Henry and his five sons, John, James, Richard, Moses and William; John Doty, Samuel Adams, William Nevins and Jacob Bell. John Adams, David Evans and Boston Derr were the first to locate in the forks of the Raccoon. William Rea was first to locate on Little Raccoon, above the forks; he came in 1820 to the northwest corner of section 7, in Raccoon township, not far from the present town of Catlin. John Sunderland soon came in, as did Caleb Williams and Henry Greer. Many of these pioneers came in before the land was actually opened for settlement, and abided their time. The first land sales did not take place above the "ten o'clock line" until 1820, and in the fall of that year, too. The records show that among the earliest to purchase lands here were: James Buchanan and Mr. Gilkinson, fathers of Alexander Buchanan and John C. Gilkinson, Esq., and they bought, at Terre Haute, the same land on which their sons lived so many long years. Joseph Ralston came to Parke county in 1819 and settled near Kerr's springs, on Big Raccoon. He cut the date on an immense beech tree, and it remained legible for full forty years.

Among the settlers north of the creek, and south of the line, were Dempsey Seybold, Dr. Taylor, John Prince, Samuel Prince, John Morrow and members of the Doty, Henry and Robinson families. These men all reared good sized and highly sturdy, intelligent families and became masters of the situation in after years in the development of Parke county.

Major Ambrose Whitlock, government surveyor, reported his work finished in the New Purchase in the summer of 1820, after which a great immigration set in, from Vincennes and Terre Haute, settling up the valley of the Wabash to a goodly extent; the Raccoon and its branches all gave up their virgin lands to settlers and permanent home-seekers. The paths, traces and blazed trails were alive with land-hunters and explorers; Indians, traders, hunters and speculators, on foot and horseback, were all hunting out locations for themselves. The year 1821 saw a wonderful addition to the pioneer settlement in Parke and Vermillion counties. Perley Mitchell made the first entry in Penn township, in the Sugar creek and Walnut groves above Leatherwood. The rush lasted until the autumn of 1822, after which the advent of pioneers was more even and moderate. They had a little understanding among themselves as to bidding on land, and if an outsider presumed to over-bid them, he was usually instructed by "persuasion," generally heeded, to "move on."

In the fine autumn days of 1822—ninety years ago—the father of Squire Glass, John Glass, arrived on the Raccoon and halted a few days at the home of Reuben Webster, who had been a settler for two years on the creek about three miles below Bridgeton. There, in two weeks, Mr. Glass lost a fine mare, seven sheep and a valuable dog, all with milk-sickness. This was a common thing in early days. Then, too, the pioneer band had to struggle with the fever and ague for a number of years. Some could not withstand it and returned to the East, from whence they had emigrated. Many who sought lands at Terre Haute in the fall of that year were unable to secure the coveted lands in the bottoms, but as it turned out it was a stroke of good fortune for them, for they found the uplands and timbered sections to be even more valuable as the years passed by. Messrs. Glass, Jacob Miller, John Miller, and Thomas Woolverton started for Montgomery county, where there was already a good sized Kentucky settlement, but early in the day they chanced to meet a solitary horse-hunter who told them of a "mighty fine strip of black walnut land just about the divide between the two creeks." They went on and were charmed by its appearance, and ere the sun went down the next day they had selected lands in that favored spot. This was the

opening of the New Discovery, as James Kelsey called it from this circumstance, and as it is still known. Then began another great land-hunter's rush. These settlers did not see the well cultivated section that cheers and charms the passerby of today. All was one vast wild forest land, obstructed with tanglewood and thicket. In every fertile spot the peavine grew in tangled masses, cropped by the cattle, which frequently fattened upon this wild food alone. Elsewhere the spicewood choked the glade, while on the southern slopes and black-soiled bottoms the pawpaw thickets yielded up their sweets in great abundance. In many places the tangled woods were impassable, and the first settlers were sometimes days in cutting away the brush and trees in order to gain an entrance to the spots they had chosen for erecting their cabins. One writer says: "The Linn thicket, which now contains a good area of the best land in the county, was navigable for ducks from the spring thaw, often as late as July first. By following the windings of low lands, a goose could have swum across a township in many seasons. But there were some compensations. Game was, of course, plenty, though beef and pork were called a luxury. An occasional bear was still found; a few wild-cats lingered in the bottoms; deer and turkeys were on every hand abundant, and squirrels of all kinds thick enough to be a nuisance to farmers. Coons, 'possums, foxes, ground-hogs and wolves were common; the ugly looking porcupine was now and then found, and birds were twenty times as numerous as nowadays, and their songs were never sweeter."

The old Indian trace from Fort Harrison to Fort Wayne bore northeast from the head of Henry's Prairie, keeping on the divide between the Big and Little Raccoon, and it was soon beaten into a road by eager home-seekers. By the middle of the summer of 1823 Abel Ball, John Jessup, Henry Nevins, Joseph Wilkinson, Silas Harlan, John Blake, Nathan Blake, Charles Woolverton, John Burford, Benjamin Walters, Constantine Curry, Clem B. Burton, and probably twenty more, had settled in New Discovery; and before the cold weather set in, there might have been seen a line of comfortable cabins and clearings even as far as Crawfordsville. May 13, 1823, there came a great time of excitement at the land office located at Crawfordsville. It was for the first pick of land; horses were run to death, men rode day and night in storms, swam swollen streams, and risked their own lives in many curious devices to reach the land-office first or outwit a rival. The "witness trees" were well known, as the survey was but recent, and the man who first threw down the "numbers" on the counter and announced his claim got the land. In 1824-5 the Hollandsburg neighborhood was filled, and it is stated

that in October, 1825, not a single piece of first class land remained untaken between there and Crawfordsville. Later, the lands were not bought and sold so readily, but it was soon found that many who took up the Linn thicket lands had made no mistake, for they proved rich and valuable. In passing, it should be said that after the first decade or so, while the virgin soil was being turned up to the sun's hot rays, especially in the autumnal months of each recurring year, things went well with the settlers, but during this first period of their sojourn here the fever and ague did great mischief and afflicted every family and sometimes every member of the household. By reason of this, great suffering had to be endured, for it is said that in that sickness people "want to die, but can't." But after the lands were broken up a few years, the decaying underbrush burned and the land with sluggish pools of water had been drained out, the country was one of beauty and enjoyed by a happy band of sturdy pioneers, who became the grandfathers and fathers of the generation just now passing. Indeed, these pioneers builded far better than they knew, and this the twentieth century is enjoying the fruits of their toils and self-sacrifices.

"We love best the man that dares to do—  
The moral hero, stalwart through and through,  
Who treads the untried path, evades the rut;  
Who braves the virgin forest, builds a hut,  
Removes the tares encumbering the soil,  
And founds an empire based on thought and toil."



## CHAPTER IV.

### ORGANIZATION AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT.

The third Legislature of the state of Indiana, by an act approved January 9, 1821, at the then capital of the state, Corydon, organized Parke county, with what is now known as Vermillion county attached as a civil township for various purposes. The same day the Governor appointed Capt. Andrew Brooks sheriff, to serve until an election could be held, and James Blair coroner. On March 27th Dempsey Seybold and Joseph Walker were appointed associate judges for the new county and Wallace Ray as clerk and recorder. May 30th John Skidmore and Joseph Ralston were commissioned justices, and all these were to act until after an election. William Clark was also appointed resident surveyor, but did not qualify, and Stephen Collett was appointed and served in his place. The first election for the new county was fixed for the first Monday in August, 1821, when the polls were opened at the house of Richard Henry, on Henry's prairie, just above the county line. Judge Seybold and 'Squire Ralston organized the poll, Judge James Barnes acted as judge of the election, and what happened in way of trouble is briefly narrated elsewhere in this volume.

At the date above mentioned the county was supposed to have a voting population of four hundred, and commissioners were sent to locate a permanent county seat. This commission was made up of Gen. Joseph Orr, Gen. Arthur Patterson and Col. Thomas Smith, the last named later becoming the well-known Indian agent. There were here, as in all new counties, a rivalry as to who should secure the county seat. The commissioners were evidently well and favorably impressed with the Buchanan vicinity, near the present town of Judson, but were urged to visit Thomas Gilkeson's place, on the Raccoon, before deciding. While at his place the commissioners were invited by Messrs. Ray, Hand and Simmons to visit another spot, which brought them up at Ray's tavern, in what is now Rockville, on a dark, gloomy morning early in the month of February, 1824. The commissioners were wet, weary and miserably fatigued, but were royally entertained by Mr. Ray, the landlord. Just what inducements were offered, aside from the steaming breakfast of which they all partook freely, none can conjecture, but before

another twenty-four hours had rolled around, the county seat of Parke county was located at Rockville, and to seal the act a bottle of aged whisky was properly emptied, after which the bottle was broken upon the big rock on the highest point of the site, and thus was legally baptized the town-to-be, the county seat, Rockville.

The temporary seat of county government, however, had been at Roseville first, and next at Armiesburg, and two courts had been held at the last named place, at least. The county seat was permanently fixed at Rockville in 1822. No buildings suitable for the offices and court were provided, however, until 1824. Sixty votes were cast at the first election in this county, that of 1821. There was only one voting precinct. The county clerk's office, with the records, was burned in the fall of 1832, and an act of the Legislature made the justices of the peace county commissioners. The first board meeting after the fire of 1832 was in January, 1833, at which they ordered repairs and a reproduction of the county records, as far as it was possible. In 1844, the law was changed and from then on the county commissioners were elected instead of appointed. The first board was Tobias Miller, James W. Beadle and Nathan Evans.

#### COUNTY GOVERNMENT.

In spite of the fact that the law for the formation of Parke county required the erection of necessary public buildings within twelve months after the location of the county seat, none were begun until two years afterward. A court house and jail were finished in June, 1826. The court house was a spacious log structure, built on the south side of the present public square, and served the double use of a house of worship and a temple of justice until it was superseded by the brick court house and the brick school house. The old jail served until 1858, when it was burned, but in reality it had been unfit for a public building for several years before its final destruction. The jail, which was also built of logs, stood on lot No. 59, just across the railroad track and to the northwest of where later stood the old brick jail. Pioneer Ray donated forty acres to the county, on which the public square and business houses are located today, and his partner, Hand, gave twenty acres, and Patterson and McCall, the other town site founders, gave twenty acres. It should be recalled that in the beginning, Andrew Ray, Aaron Hand and James McCall joined in conveying one hundred acres of land to Parke county. This was conditioned on the permanent location of the seat of justice at Rockville, a deed over which there was much litigation in after years when

the people sought to remove the seat of justice to Bloomingdale. Thomas Smith, one of the commissioners to locate the county seat, was also appointed by the governor to lay out and properly plat the newly located county town, which he at once proceeded to execute. The last of April he began to advertise, and June 16 and 17, 1824, cried the sale of lots in Rockville. He sold on commission plan and almost "cried" in reality over the few lots sold and the very low prices which he was compelled to sell them for. Lot No. 1, on the northeast corner of town, was sold to James Strain, Sr. The county officers soon removed to "town" and three or four lawyers, of which it is related many believed young Joseph Van Meter was the brightest, but it appears he never made good in the great conflict of life and was never heard of save for a short sojourn here.

#### VARIOUS COURT HOUSES AND JAILS.

Parke county's first court house was the rude, but good sized, log structure built in 1826, which served until 1829, when a contract was let to Matthew Stewart, against great opposition, to build a new court house. County orders were worth only fifty cents on a dollar, and it was thought the whole county would soon become bankrupt. But the wheels of time revolved and the brick court house was completed in 1832, and served the county until 1879, when it was torn down by Isaac McFaddin. The old brick jail, built at that time, served (longer than it ought to have been tolerated) until 1858, when it was burned. The picture of the old brick court house shows it to have been a good structure for its day and served well the uses for which it was originally intended.

On December 3, 1878, the county auditor was authorized to advertise for plans for a new court house and a jail. These bids were opened January 29, 1879, and there were found to be fifteen of them. It took until March 20th to settle the question of which plans were the best and most acceptable. Those furnished by T. J. Tolan & Son, of Fort Wayne, were selected and an order issued causing bonds to be floated in the sum of \$100,000 to meet the payments on such public buildings. Then bids were asked for the construction of the proposed buildings. On May 1, 1879, the bids were opened and it was found that the highest bid was that of \$78,250 and the lowest was \$68,800, but the lowest bidder could not furnish sufficient bonds and it was awarded to the next lowest bid, of \$68,900, which was that of William H. Myers, who, it was later found out, was a relative and co-worker with the

iron company and the architect of Fort Wayne. Under this contract made by the county board and Myers, the work proceeded until the autumn of 1880, when he had collected more from the county, really, than was his due, and a difficulty arose, the result of which was that Myers abandoned the work and the county went ahead, under a superintendent, George W. Collings, and finished the buildings. Myers had been paid \$58,836.07 when he quit. The cornerstone was laid September 11, 1879, under Masonic rites. This stone bears the following inscription: "County Commissioners, Zachariah Byers, Mahalon M. Marshall, William Carmichael. John B. Connelly, Auditor. T. J. Tolan & Son, Architects. W. H. Myers, Builder. September 11, 1879."

It now appears that the two dates found over the north entrance—"1879-80"—is a mistake. The building was not completed in 1880, but in 1882. It is supposed that Myers, the contractor, had these stones cut and intended to complete the court house by sometime in 1880, as contracted for, and for some unknown reason this "1880" stone was allowed to be placed in the front wall—possibly the work had progressed as far as the setting of this stone before the contractor Myers quit. The court house cost the county in round figures \$110,000, with heating plant. The brick jail, on the opposite side of the square, cost about ten thousand more. Both are still in good condition and fine buildings. The court house is a fine stone structure, of fine styled architecture and modern in most of its appointments. A splendid clock and bell were added later, costing about \$1,500. The final day of dedication was at hand and, despite the bad weather, the assembly was very great. It was on Washington's birthday, February 22, 1882. S. D. Puett was chairman of the day. Exercises opened by singing "Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow." Rev. W. Y. Allen then read the Ten Commandments and offered prayer. Hon. Thomas N. Rice was orator of the occasion, and speeches were made by others, on "The Bench and Bar," and also on the county officials, past and present. The president of the day was Col. E. M. Benson; vice-presidents, Zachariah Byers, William Carmichael, M. W. Marshall, O. P. Brown, J. D. Collings, George Mater. Numerous speeches were made during the forenoon, afternoon and evening.

Within the corner-stone of the present court house were deposited, under direction of the Masonic lodge that had charge of the stone-laying, these articles: A copy of the by-laws and historical records of Parke Lodge No. 8, and of No. 37; various papers belonging to the various lodges and societies in Parke county; also a history of the lodge known as Silliman Lodge of Knights of Pythias, with its charter, and those of the Masonic and



Odd Fellows lodges; a list of all lodges in the county; copies of the Rockville papers, including that of the *Tribune* of September 11, 1879, *Rockville Republican* of September 10, 1879, the *Montezuma Era*; blank notes of the First National Bank; small quantities of grain of each variety grown in Parke county; postage stamps of all denominations; American and foreign coins; business cards of the business men of Rockville; brief account of the old court house, with a photograph of the building; names of county commissioners; photograph of the residence of A. K. Stark, and other objects of historic interest; statistics of Parke county for 1878 and a copy of the interesting address of Dr. Thomas Rice, on the occasion of corner-stone laying.

## FINANCES OF PARKE COUNTY.

The receipts and expenditures of Parke county for the year ending June 1, 1855, were as follows: Receipts, from show licenses, \$50; county revenue for 1854, \$10,341; township tax for 1854, \$2,534; road tax collected for 1854, \$160; cost of printing, \$265; other items, making a total of \$13,569. The expenditures for the same period were: Keeping the poor, \$1,347; assessing revenue, \$545; county officers, \$2,427; cost of printing, \$320; keeping prisoners, \$355; books and stationery, \$238; bailiffs' fees, \$316; jury fees, \$785; insane persons, \$49; public buildings, \$250; fuel, \$13; election expenses, \$17; bridges, \$2,015; township tax, \$2,534; road tax, \$120; total, \$11,753. Total of the county's receipts were, that year, \$13,569.

In the month of February, 1912, the treasurer's books showed the following exhibit in the funds in the county:

	Disbursed.	On Hand.
County Revenue -----	\$ 58,522	\$17,946
Principal, Common -----	6,896	2,168
Congressional -----	1,348	173
Endowment -----	1,275	28
Interest, Common -----	2,664	245
Congressional -----	2,086	643
Endowment -----	374	360
Fines and Forfeitures -----	615	180
Bonds for construction gravel roads---	37,946	37,098
Redemption of Gravel road bonds-----	57,753	9,302
Show License -----	20	
Liquor License -----	4,000	
Township Tax -----	14,992	2,443



OLD PARKE COUNTY COURT HOUSE.



Local Tuition -----	\$ 52,705	\$ 9,334
Special School -----	59,260	11,095
Road -----	7,363	77
Common School Revenue -----	30,635	891
Library -----	146	4
Special School Building -----	4,125	79
Corporation -----	8,493	116
Water Works -----	2,034	-----
Electric Lights -----	2,127	34
Cemetery -----	233	13
Clay Plant -----	618	11
Park -----	102	6,892
Gravel Road Repairs -----	23,125	-----
Totals -----	\$387,190	\$99,332

The above serves to show many things connected with the county at this date—the schools, gravel roads, fines and general financial affairs.

ASSESSED VALUATION, 1912.

The following shows the personal and real estate assessed valuations by townships and corporations:

Adams Township -----	\$1,250,500	Howard Township-----	\$ 438,025
Washington Township --	907,760	Rockville (Corporation) --	1,058,600
Sugar Creek Township---	354,395	Marshall (Corporation) --	164,810
Liberty Township -----	812,110	Montezuma (Corporation)	420,888
Reserve Township -----	718,235	Rosedale (Corporation) --	315,010
Wabash Township -----	787,555	Diamond (Corporation) --	68,930
Florida Township -----	1,324,155	Bloomington (Corpora-	
Raccoon Township -----	958,720	tion) -----	181,945
Jackson Township -----	496,520	Judson (Corporation)---	28,010
Union Township -----	838,630		
Greene Township -----	1,005,580		
Penn Township -----	617,775	Total -----	\$12,798,240

THE PARKE COUNTY ASYLUM.

Be it said to the credit of Parke county, that it has never had a great burden on account of its unfortunate poor, and for this expense the people



have never given of taxes begrudgingly. For many years after the organization of the county each township looked after its own paupers, but of more recent years the system of caring for such charges has been changed to what in Indiana is styled a county asylum, located near the county seat, where convenient buildings, and a farm which is nearly self-supporting is employed for the safe and humane keeping of those who by reason of old age or misfortune have been thrown upon the people for support. The present superintendent of this institution in Parke county, E. M. Carter, reported in May, 1912, that the asylum then had twenty-two inmates, mostly men, too aged for work. During the three months just before the 30th of last May, thirty-four persons had been admitted to this asylum and twelve had been discharged from it. At that date there was on hand in the fund for the maintenance of the institution, \$148.80, and \$197.90 had been paid out at the asylum in the quarter ending when such report was filed with the county auditor. Hence it will be seen that there are not many paupers within the county's charge, and that no tax-payer is heavily burdened on their account. Indeed most everyone feels it a duty and pleasure to aid in making life comfortable to these few unfortunates.

Sometime prior to the Civil war, the county deemed it wise to purchase a farm near the county seat, and there care for her poor. This was carried out and a building erected less than three miles from the court house. This served until the present thirty-thousand-dollar buildings were constructed. Here every care possible is taken of the unfortunate inmates. The property is looked after by the superintendent, under the watch-care of the county commissioners.

#### EARLY LAW BREAKERS.

An early term of Parke county court indicted six persons and fined them for gaming; six for profane language; one for retailing spirituous liquors; one for giving a friend whisky at camp-meeting; two for illegal voting. At another term, twenty-four men were indicted and fined from one to ten dollars for betting small amounts "just to make it more interesting."

## CHAPTER V.

### COUNTY AND OTHER OFFICIALS.

Owing to the disastrous fire of November, 1832, many of the early records of this county were destroyed, hence there are some facts lacking concerning the election, appointment and terms of the early-day public officials, but the following is almost a complete list of those who have served, and in the order in which they were elected or appointed to office:

#### STATE REPRESENTATIVES.

1823—Thomas Blake.	1868—James T. Johnston.
1825—Joseph M. Hayes.	1870-72—John E. Woodard.
*        *        *        *	* 1874-76—Daniel Thomas.
1835—General George K. Steele.	1878—Robert Kelly.
1843—James Kerr.	1880—Ira H. Gillum.
1845-6—William R. Nofsinger.	1882—William Knowles.
1848—John J. Meacham.	1884—William N. Aiken.
1849—Samuel H. Johnston.	1886-88—George Hobson.
1850—Gabriel Houghman.	1890-92—Jeremiah Morris.
1851—E. S. Holladay.	1894-96—Albert M. Adams.
1852—George K. Steele.	1896-98—Albert M. Adams.
1854—Levi Sidwell.	1898-1900—Elias H. Owens.
1856—George K. Steele.	1900-04—Elias H. Owens, died.
1858—Samuel H. Johnston.	—John R. Johnston.
1860—George G. Crain.	1904-06—John R. Johnston.
1862—Col. Casper Budd.	1908—Jacob S. White.
1864—Thomas N. Rice.	1910—Jacob S. White.
1866—Walter C. Donaldson.	1912—George W. Spencer, Jr.

#### COUNTY CLERKS.

1821-1833—Wallace Rea.	1850-51—Joseph B. Cornelius.
1833 —Joseph Potts.	1851-60—George W. Thompson.
1833-50—John G. Davis.	1860-68—Samuel Magill.

1868-76—John F. D. Hunt.  
 1876-84—David Strause.  
 1884-88—Madison Keeney.  
 1888-92—Jesse H. McCoy.  
 1892-96—Isaac L. Wimmer.

1896-1900—John E. Harshbarger.  
 1900-04—Charles D. Renick.  
 1904-08—Ewing Chapman.  
 1908-12—George L. Laney.  
 1912- —Randolph J. Cummings.

## SHERIFFS.

1821- —Captain Andrew Brooks.  
 1824- —Henry Anderson.  
 1825-7 —Isaac J. Sillman.  
 1827-31—William T. Noel.  
 1833- —John G. Davis.  
 1833-37—William Kilgore.  
 1837-41—Aaron Hart.  
 1841-45—James Youman.  
 1845-49—Gabriel Houghman.  
 1849-53—James W. Beadle.  
 1853-57—David Kirkpatrick.  
 1857-61—Abraham Darroch.  
 1861-65—George B. Inge.  
 1865-7 —James Phelon.  
 1867- —Jesse Partlow.  
 1867-72—Norval W. Cummings.

1872-74—Christian Steinbaugh.  
 1874-78—George B. Chapman.  
 1878-82—Zimri D. Maris.  
 1882-86—John R. Musser.  
 1886-90—Ed. Nicholas.  
 1890-94—George S. Jones.  
 1894-96—William D. Mull.  
 1896- —Barton W. Dooley.  
 1898- —Perry E. Benson.  
 1900- —Perry E. Benson.  
 1902- —T. E. Aydelotte.  
 1904- —E. M. Carter.  
 1906- —E. M. Carter.  
 1908- —Robert J. Finney.  
 1910- —Robert J. Finney.  
 1912- —Edward D. Nicholas.

## COUNTY RECORDERS.

The county clerk ex-officio was recorder until 1833, when the separate office of recorder was created. It was changed again to a combined office till 1848.

1821-33—Wallace Rea.  
 1833 —James G. Davis.  
 1833-34—Duncan Darroch.  
 1852 —Joseph B. Cornelius.  
 1853-57—Samuel Fisher.  
 1857-65—F. W. Dinwiddie.  
 1866 —James M. Thomas.

1870-74—Elwood Hunt.  
 1874-82—William J. White.  
 1882-90—Henry B. Cord.  
 1891-98—Charles E. Lambert.  
 1898-06—Daniel J. Chapin.  
 1906-12—Carl Rutter.

## COUNTY AUDITORS.

Prior to August 9, 1841, the work devolving on what is now the auditor was laid upon the duties of the county clerk.

1841-58—Joseph Potts.	1886-94—Samuel T. Catlin.
1858-62—L. A. Foote.	1894-98—Elias H. Owen.
1862-66—George P. Daly.	1898-02—Stephen A. Pike.
1866-74—John H. Tate.	1902-06—Henry Gubb.
1874-82—Jesse B. Connelly.	1906-10—H. A. Henderson.
1882-86—Edwin F. Hadley.	1910 —James E. Elder.

## COUNTY TREASURERS.

The sheriff collected all taxes from the beginning of the county government down to 1833, when the office of treasurer was established.

1833 —Hugh J. Bradley.	1880-84—James N. McCampbell.
1834-8 —Austin M. Puitt.	1884-88—Isaac A. Pickard.
—Erastus M. Benson.	1888-90—James N. Dinwiddie.
1841-1859—Aaron Hart, Miles Hart,	1891-93—N. W. Cummings.
Samuel Hart, Charles	1893-96—Moses T. Kelly.
Grant and John R.	1896-98—Thomas D. Byers.
Miller.	1898-1900—William Rawlings.
1859-63—Washington Hadley.	1900-04—George Bronson.
1873-67—John T. Campbell.	1904-06—Edward Bradfield.
1876-72—John H. Lindley.	1906-08—Edward Bradfield.
1872-76—N. W. Cummings.	1908-12—George W. Spencer.
1876-80—F. W. Dinwiddie.	

## CORONERS.

Among the coroners who have served in Parke county may be given these:

1821-5 —Truman Ford.	1837-39—William M. Brooks.
1825 —James Nesmith.	1839-43—James J. Roberts.
1827 —Stephen Flemming.	1844-45—Hugh S. Comingore.
1831-33—Samuel H. Johnston.	—Randall H. Burk.
—Charles Nugent.	1846-49—Solomon Pinegar.
1835-37—Hugh J. Bradley.	1849 —Johnson S. White.



Others—Christopher Hensel, Matthew Gilkeson, Daniel Mater, John Alexander, Ed. Brown, James Jacobs, William Mains, James M. Cox, John Aydollett, William Knowles (colored), Omer O. Hall, Robert J. Fyffe.

Theodore H. Johnson (colored), Squire Glass, Hiram Newlin, A. Morris, John A. Musser, Hiram E. Newlin, Chas. W. Overpeck, Thomas J. Collings, William J. Pease, Peare, Collins.

#### COUNTY ASSESSORS.

This office was created in 1891, by act of the Legislature. The first to hold the office in Parke county was Stephen A. Pike, appointed in June, 1891, and who served until November of that year.

1891—Samuel Coble.

1906—Stephen A. Pike.

1900—Charles E. McDaniel.

1910—Stephen A. Pike.

#### COUNTY SURVEYORS.

Among the various surveyors in Parke county have been the following: Jeremiah H. Siler, Enos C. Siler, William H. Nye, John T. Campbell, Claud Ott, Alfred Hadley, whose deputy was a Mr. Demare, who had the field-notes of the whole county in his house, when all were burned, causing the county a great loss. Later surveyors have been: Claud Ott, John A. Campbell, Arthur Pickett, James E. Phillips, Henry Davis.

#### JUDGES.

The first court held in Parke county was at the house of Samuel Blair, in Rosedale, where it continued to be held until a suitable place could be provided at the county seat. The first associate judges were Samuel Steele, 1826; James McSmith, 1827. The judges of the circuit court were: Isaac Naylor, 1833; associates, Judges Robert Mitchell and D. Seybold. In 1838, E. M. Huntington; associates, R. H. Wedding, W. C. Donaldson. 1842, William P. Bryant; same associates as before. 1844, John Law; associates, Alexander Kirkpatrick, W. C. Donaldson. 1850, S. B. Gookins; associates, A. Kirkpatrick and Samuel Case. 1851, D. R. Eckles; same associates as before. In 1852 the office of associate judge was abolished. The judge next to serve was W. P. Bryant. 1858, John M. Cowan; 1867, C. Y. Patterson; 1873,

Samuel C. Wilson; 1879, William P. Britton, Albert D. Wilson having served just after Judge Wilson for a short term. The next judge was Joshua J. Jump, succeeded by Ared F. White, Gould G. Rheuby, Charles W. Ward, William C. Wait, Jr., Barton Aikman.

#### COMMON PLEAS JUDGES.

From 1853 to 1873 existed what was styled the court of common pleas. The judges in Parke county were: Hons. John R. Porter, 1853; S. F. Maxwell, 1853; C. Y. Patterson, 1861; S. F. Maxwell, 1865; 1869, John T. Scott, who was in office when the position was abolished.

#### PROBATE JUDGES.

From 1829 to 1853 there was the office of probate judge in Indiana, and in Parke county the gentlemen who served as such judges were Joseph Potts; Daniel M. Morris, 1834; T. S. Baldwin, 1834; John Marshall, 1844 to 1853.

#### PRESENT BAR OF PARKE COUNTY.

The attorneys practicing at the Parke county bar in the autumn of 1912 were as follows: Ared F. White, Albert M. Adams, J. M. Johns, S. F. Max Puett, Clarence G. Powell, J. C. Buchanan, S. F. McGuinn, D. J. Chapin, George W. Bell, W. T. Fink, Elwood Hunt, Howard Maxwell, Howard Hancock, Roy W. Thompson, Tenbrook McCarty, F. M. McLaughlin, R. C. McDivitt, Chas. E. Lambert, H. A. Henderson, Earl Dowd, Henry Daniels, David Strouse, J. S. McFaddin, Frank Strouse, J. S. White, C. E. Newlin, Clyde Riggs, Will G. Bennett, J. M. Neet, Carrie Hyde.

The court officers were: Barton S. Aikman, judge; George L. Laney, clerk; Leonora Gleason, deputy; W. A. Satterlee, prosecutor; Robert J. Finney, sheriff; Marion Grubb, deputy; W. T. Fink, deputy.

## CHAPTER VI.

### MILITARY HISTORY OF PARKE COUNTY.

Over the great questions of state's rights and slavery, the Civil war finally was commenced, for all time, probably, to settle these questions on the American continent, and set, as it were, a guide-board to all foreign nations, powers and kingdoms, that they, too, might learn that men (black or white, red or copper colored) are endowed with certain inalienable rights, including life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. It took four long years of blood-shed to settle this question. Sword and powder finally settled it, once for all, that the nation is and always must stand above its individual states and territories. In the settlement of this question, the settlement of the slave traffic was also settled, by the Emancipation Proclamation signed by President Lincoln, primarily as a war measure, hence with no recompense to the slave owners for their property in the slaves they held. Had they laid down their arms in 1862, a different page might have been given to the history of the fair Southland.

In the opening months of 1861, however, Parke county only felt these truths darkly; and as late as January 23d of that year, no less ardent a patriot than John T. Campbell published in the *Republican*, of Rockville, a well-written letter advocating peaceable secession; but at the same time from all quarters of the county came reports of public meetings, where men of all parties pledged themselves to sacrifice life and property, if need be, for the preservation of the Union. But these sentiments changed, or rather crystallized the sentiment in the county, after the famous speech of that great patriot and statesman, Governor Oliver P. Morton, in which he laid down the principle that the nation had the constitutional right to fight for its existence, though its enemies in certain states objected, and that, if necessary, they had the right to coerce the rebellious states. While the public mind was in this state the rebels struck the first blow, and Indiana's response was immediate and enthusiastic. On April 12, 1861, Fort Sumter was attacked; April 13th, it was compelled to surrender; April 14th, President Lincoln called for 75,000 volunteers, and April 16th, as soon as the news had reached Parke county, its men "arose as one man," practically, to assert their devotion to

the starry flag of freedom and Union. On Tuesday, the 16th, the people came together as by one common impulse, and hundreds of young and middle-aged men vowed to die, if need be, for the Union of States. No recruiting officer arrived until the 17th. After a cross-meeting had failed, Charles E. Adamson, a typesetter on the *Franklin Republican*, reached the stand first and enrolled his name, the first in Decatur, but the first to enroll from Parke county was G. H. Hansel, who, called from this county to Brazil, where, two hours before young Adamson had enrolled, he had signed the sheet at Brazil, making him the first of this county's brave men to offer his services to the country. Young Hansel lived at Bridgeton, and to him must be given this honor. This matter was settled by the two men after their return from the war, when the day and hour of the enrollment was investigated and agreed upon, as above narrated. Following the enrollment of young Adamson, were entered the names of W. N. Painter, R. E. Smith, J. F. Meatham, Zach Garrett, E. M. Foose, J. E. Wright, Fran. A. Anderson, George Sanderson, Jim Steele, J. A. Wilson, Jacob Norton, Samuel L. Gumpston, William S. Coleman, James R. Painter, John A. Pike, David Byers, James R. Hollowell, W. N. Ralston and John Graves. These left the next day for Indianapolis, there to learn, with surprise, that out of the number only fifteen were accepted upon physical examination, but later in the war, when the government wanted and needed men, they were not so critical and so particular, even if a man's body had some little defect, if he was able to load a musket and march in defense of Old Glory. Then it was that many of these first rejected men, who had not sulked, but waited their time, were able to enlist and march with other soldiers from Parke county commands. The men who were accepted at Indianapolis were assigned to company C, Eleventh Indiana Regiment, commanded by the now late Gen. Lew Wallace, and took part in the three-months campaign in West Virginia, as the territory is now understood, but then a part of Old Virginia. They participated in the battles of Philippi and Laurel Hill, and drove the rebels from that territory. J. H. Hollowell, one of the boys from Parke county of a scouting squad of eleven, fought in the bloody battle of Kelley's Island, in which they opposed fifty Confederate soldiers, upon whom the eleven had suddenly come. It was surrender, and then probably sudden death or long captivity, unless they could fight their way out. Their decision was prompt and worthy of brave men—they fought. From tree to tree, firing at every opportunity and dropping a man at almost every shot, they fought their way out, and came off with the loss of but two men. Hollowell shot down two



men, then, coming in close quarters, clubbed his gun and disabled two more; again fired, with the stock of his gun almost off, and again brought down his man. Of the enemy, he certainly killed three and possibly two more. From accounts published by J. H. Beadle in 1880 and by Isaac R. Strouse in 1896, the following has been largely compiled:

COMPANY A, FOURTEENTH REGIMENT.

The first full company that left Rockville was on May 8, 1861. They went to Camp Vigo, Terre Haute. It was composed of the very best young men of the community. Its officers were: L. A. Foote, captain; Thomas Williams, first lieutenant; T. A. Howard, second lieutenant; Robert Catterson, orderly sergeant. At the same time Captain Wheat enrolled forty men in Rockville, and the remainder of the company in Rosedale. Captain Foote's company became A of the Fourteenth Indiana, and voted to go into the service for three years, on May 25, 1861, three days before the order of the war department which organized the three-year regiments. On June 8th, the day after the company was mustered, the ladies in Rockville gave a dinner at Camp Vigo, to Company A, and Captain Foote was then presented with a sword, the speech of presentation being made by T. N. Rice. Before these men left Terre Haute, G. W. McCune, of Rockville, was appointed assistant surgeon of the regiment and Nathan H. Kimball commissioned colonel. They left Camp Vigo, June 25, 1861, for Indianapolis, and were sent from there direct to the seat of war in Virginia. After serving some months, Captain Foote and Lieutenant Howard resigned; Lieutenant Bostwick was killed at Antietam and at Fredericksburg Captain Kelley was killed. Lieutenant Baker's leg was shot off. The command of the company was then given to Joshua L. Hayes, who had enlisted as a private. From the start the regiment made an enviable record, and Company A was second to none in the army. In the fight, camp or march they were always true representatives of an ideal American soldier of the volunteer type, which General Logan contended was the best soldier the country had. They participated in the battles of Greenbrier, Winchester, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Mine Run, Wilderness, Cold Harbor. At the latter place they were ordered to Indianapolis and mustered out, having served three years. Those who veteranized were transferred to the Twentieth Regiment and remained until the end of the war.

## COMPANY H, TWENTY-FIRST REGIMENT.

Capt. John T. Campbell, who was rejected from the Fourteenth on account of the want of teeth, came home and immediately began raising a company. The men at Annapolis, on June 30th, elected John T. Campbell, captain; Thomas Bryant, first lieutenant; James Connelly, second lieutenant; and William P. Wimmer, adjutant. The company was composed of intelligent, fine looking men, under thirty years of age. They received orders to report at Indianapolis, and left Rockville, July 5th. They were assigned to Colonel McMillen's Twenty-first Regiment, and became Company H. From Indianapolis they went direct to Baltimore, where they remained during the winter and in the spring moved by water for Newport News, there embarking on the ship "Constitution" for Ship Island, and became a part of the Army of the Gulf, under General Butler, which had for its object the capture of New Orleans. Leaving Ship Island, they were sent to New Orleans, after the fall of Jackson and Phillipi. During their service as infantry their duty was of the most dangerous character, being employed to dislodge rebels from the swamps and bayous of Louisiana, and they were constantly fighting the enemy. The company took part in the battle of Baton Rouge, and signally distinguished itself, suffering severe losses. In this fight Captain Campbell was wounded and, to the regret of his men, had to leave the service. After the battle of Baton Rouge the regiment became the First Heavy Artillery and Company H became noted for the remarkable accuracy of its gunners, doing very effective service at the siege of Port Hudson. It has been said that Company H contained the best gunners in all that department of the army. In the disastrous expedition up Red river, this company bore an active part in repelling the repeated attacks of pursuing rebels. After their return, the most of the regiment having veteranized, they went to New Orleans and soon after took an active part in the Mobile campaign, which resulted in the capture of Fort Morgan and Fort Gaines, and finally in the surrender of the city itself, with an immense amount of ordnance and three hundred cannon. The company went to Baton Rouge and were there detained till January 13, 1866, when they received their final discharge.

## THE WABASH RIFLEMEN.

This was the little company of men raised by Fred Arn and William H. Beadle. They rendezvoused at the Fair grounds in Montezuma, where, on August 6th, they elected Fred Arn, captain; W. H. Beadle, first lieutenant,

and Dr. Richard Waterman, second lieutenant. They left Montezuma August 19th, and before leaving were presented with a beautiful flag by the ladies of the place, Hon. T. N. Rice presenting it on behalf of the ladies. Arriving at Terre Haute, they were kept in Camp Vigo till September 21st, then ordered to Evansville, where they drew their rifles and went to Kentucky. During the long and dreary winter they suffered from sickness, being stationed at Calhoun, Kentucky. This winter was the hardest of their campaigning. In February they went to Fort Donelson and gallantly fought through that bloody battle. The next fight was Shiloh, in which the gallant Arn, then a major, was killed. His body was returned home and buried at Montezuma by the Masonic fraternity. This company stood unflinchingly while the battle raged hottest in front of Murfreesboro and went down to "the Valley of Death" at Chickamauga. They were made veterans January 1, 1864, and came home on a furlough, returning in time for the brilliant Atlanta campaign. They took part in the battles of Resaca and Kenesaw mountain and were in that awful slaughter at Jonesboro, below Atlanta, which ended that historic campaign. When Hood made his desperate raid back upon Nashville, they were sent with the division to overtake him and engaged in the battle of Nashville. The company was mustered out December 8, 1865.

#### THE PENN GUARDS.

At the breaking out of the war a company was organized and called the "Penn Guards." George Harvey proposed that they go into the United States volunteer service, whereupon fifteen at once declared their wish to volunteer. Recruiting began at once and was aided by James Hollowell and William Geiger of Rockville. They organized and elected Harvey captain; Geiger, first lieutenant, and Hollowell, second lieutenant, the latter later becoming colonel of his regiment. This company was mustered into the Thirty-first Regiment and became Company I. At the battle of Pittsburg Landing, Captain Harvey was severely wounded and while being carried from the field was shot through the head and instantly killed. His remains were brought back to Rockville and escorted to his father's house, two miles north of town, by the Rockville Union Guards. The citizens of the place asked permission of his family to bury Captain Harvey in the cemetery at Rockville, which was granted. Over his grave was erected a befitting monument, telling how he fought and died that the country might live. The history of Company I, as to the engagements in which it took part, is the same as Company A. Both

companies, after the battle of Nashville, were transferred to the Army of Occupancy in Texas, and mustered out on December 8, 1865.

COMPANY K, FORTY-THIRD REGIMENT.

John Callender raised this company, aided by William S. Magil, William Sweeney, V. P. Bonsell and Samuel Garrigus. The company collected at Terre Haute and it was decided not to hold an election of officers until it was completed. At the election held at Camp Vigo, Tuesday, October 29th, John Callender was chosen captain; W. S. Magil, first lieutenant; G. H. Hensel, second lieutenant. As soon as the citizens heard of the election, a fine sword was presented Lieutenant Magil, who acknowledged the compliment by a card published in the *Parke County Republican*. Company K was presented with a handsome flag by the patriotic ladies of Rockwell, which flag was sent to the town later, with appropriate ceremonies. July 4, 1865, General Steele was commissioned colonel of the regiment, which took its departure for Kentucky, November 17, 1861 and, were located for a while at Spottsville, but soon sent to Calhoun, where they remained until February, 1862. Company K engaged in the work of true soldiers and suffered some, but fared better in health than other commands, owing to the extra time and expense used by Colonel Steele to take good care of his men and their surroundings. But later, while this company was on duty along the Mississippi river, it suffered much from sickness, as did other soldiers of that department. Colonel Steele resigned January 17, 1862, which act was deeply regretted by his men. The other officers of the regiment petitioned him and passed resolutions of regret and desired him to remain in the service, but his health would not permit. The company was transferred to the Department of the Mississippi and most of its service was along that stream. They were with the Forty-third Regiment, the first Union soldiers to enter Memphis, after the war began. From Memphis they were sent to Arkansas, participating in the battle of Helena, July 4th, doing some excellent fighting. This regiment captured a full rebel regiment of greater numbers than the Forty-third. At Little Rock they re-enlisted as veterans and were sent home on a furlough. They returned to Indianapolis and were never sent to the front, but guarded rebel prisoners until mustered out, July 14, 1865.



## THE NINTH BATTERY.

This command was raised by Captain Thompson, of Evansville, Indiana, who recruited about forty men in Parke county. The remainder of the battery was enrolled in Montgomery county. It was organized at Indianapolis and left for Cairo, Illinois, the men being thoroughly drilled and then sent on to Tennessee in the vicinity of Pittsburg Landing, where they arrived Sunday, April 6th, at sundown. The battery was composed of young men and from their youthful appearance became known as the "Boy Battery." Their extreme youth and inexperience led many of the old soldiers to doubt their usefulness, and they were often told that they would never stand what they had just gone through that day, but would run at the first opportunity. The battery was finally planted on the extreme right of the Union lines, and was supported by Gen. Lew Wallace's brigade. Directly in front of the Ninth was a rebel battery which had done good service on Sunday. In the early morning the Ninth opened the great battle which was to end in defeat of the rebels and the death of one of their great generals—a battle never before equaled on this continent and almost without parallel in modern warfare. The Ninth soon dismounted and silenced the rebel battery and was advanced about two miles, where they fired every charge of ammunition they had. During the fight they had fired one thousand three hundred rounds and experienced officers said they never saw guns served or aimed with greater effectiveness. The men who predicted the "boy battery" would run gave three rousing cheers, when they saw how manfully they worked at their guns and afterwards the Ninth was known as the best battery in the whole service. After the battle the battery was returned by General Wallace, until the evacuation of Corinth, where they went with the Thirteenth Army Corps (then under gallant McPherson). Among the principal actions in which they engaged were famous Shiloh, Corinth, those of the Meridian campaign and Red River expedition and from Vicksburg they were deployed on the expedition against the rebels. At Memphis they veteranized, and all save a detachment were sent home on furlough. The men left took part in the battle of Tupello, Mississippi, after which they chased Price through Missouri over into Kansas, marching seven hundred and twenty miles and returned in time to fight at the battle of Nashville. At this battle, A. P. Noel, wounded at Tupello, came out of the hospital and joined his battery on his crutches. He was seen by Gen. A. J. Smith, who ordered him back, but Pat wanted to stay and only went to the rear when taken in charge by a

guard! The Ninth was ordered to report at Indianapolis, after the battle of Nashville. From there they were to take boats for Evansville. When a few miles out from Paducah, Kentucky, the steamer "Eclipse" exploded; on the boat were sixty-eight of this battery, and all but ten of the brave boys were killed, scalded or wounded. The Ninth was reorganized at Indianapolis, but never reported for duty, as the surrender of Lee to Grant occurred soon after they were reorganized, when all the light artillery not in the field was mustered out. With the Ninth Battery ended the enlistment for the second grand uprising. The next call, in the summer of 1862, was made, when the Seventy-fifth, Seventy-eighth and Eighty-fifth Regiments were sent to the field from Indiana. The action of the Parke county men in these engagements will be traced out further in this chapter.

#### PARKE COUNTY AGAIN TO THE RESCUE.

In 1862, the demand for soldiers was greater than in 1861, when it was a matter of conjecture what the Confederates could and would accomplish. But not so in 1862; it was then a dread reality what they were doing to our forces. McClellan had marched nearly "on to Richmond," but retreated, after the slaughter of Malvern Hills, Glendale, Gaines Mills, etc. The Army of North Virginia, with its veterans from Manassas and Seven Pines, were pressing forward to the music of "Maryland, My Maryland," and that under Kirby Smith, eager to avenge Zollicofer and Fort Donelson, had re-entered Kentucky, with evident intention of invading Indiana. The patriotic men of Parke county were called upon and responded nobly as before, enlisting by the hundreds in the armies of the Union.

On July 11, 1862, Wallace W. McCune, assisted by some patriotic young men, began raising a company, with headquarters at the fair grounds at Montezuma. At a war meeting held at Rockville, July 26th, addressed by ex-Governor J. A. Wright, Lieutenant McArthur, of Captain McCune's company, enrolled a number of men. After camping a few days at Montezuma, the company went into Camp Vigo, Terre Haute, after which it was sent to Indianapolis and mustered into the Seventy-first Infantry for three years and became Company G. The regiment was immediately sent to Kentucky and took part in the battle of Richmond when only twelve days from home. Most of the regiment were taken prisoners, after hard and desperate fighting. They were immediately paroled and sent to Terre Haute. Captain McCune resigned November 30, 1862, and Lieutenant McArthur became captain. The regiment was sent back to Kentucky after being exchanged, and in February, 1863, was changed to a cavalry organization and became

the Sixth Indiana Cavalry, after which it was sent to eastern Tennessee and engaged in the siege of Knoxville. In the spring of 1864 they were sent to Georgia and assisted in the Atlanta campaign, as part of the Army of the Ohio, participating in all of the cavalry operations and taking part in the battles of Resaca, Cassville and Kenesaw Mountain. After the fall of Atlanta they were sent with Sherman on his raid against Macon, which resulted in the surrender of his staff and the greater part of his command. Of the captured, twenty of the company starved to death in prison—Andersonville and Libby. Those not captured were at the battle of Nashville and remained in that city till April, 1864, when they were sent to Mississippi and became part of the military division of that state. They were mustered out September 11th at Murphreesboro, Tennessee.

COMPANIES C AND D, SEVENTY-EIGHTH.

During the last week of July, 1862, one hundred and twenty men for sixty days' service were raised in Parke county, mostly from Rockville and Bellemore. The company went to Indianapolis, where some difficulty about the election of officers occurred and the company, being too large, was divided. Those who preferred T. A. Howard as captain stepped to one side, and those wanting J. W. Humphreys to the other. Captain Howard was the favorite with most of the men, consequently the Rockville company was the largest. They elected Howard captain, J. M. Nichols, first lieutenant, and Madison Keeney, second lieutenant. The Bellemore company elected Humphries, captain; E. Cole, first lieutenant, and S. Crooks, second lieutenant. The two companies, with one from Clay and Putnam counties, became the Seventy-eighth Indiana, which regiment was never completed, and left Indianapolis Friday evening, August 1st, for Evansville, where they drew arms and uniforms and Saturday evening went to Henderson, Kentucky, remained one day and Sunday night went by boat down the river to Uniontown and marched to the country several miles to capture some guerrillas, but owing to the want of a competent guide the expedition was abandoned. During that march Private Loveless, of the Bellemore company, was mortally wounded, being shot by his own comrades, who, without orders, fired upon the skirmish line of their own men. On September 1st the battalion—one hundred and fifty men—were attacked by seven hundred and fifty Rebels and, after a severe fight, lasting an hour and a half, during which Captain Howard and many others were killed and others mortally wounded, they had to surrender. Though the Rebels were victors, their success was dearly

bought, as about twenty of their number were killed and many more wounded. The men of the Seventy-eighth were paroled and sent to Indianapolis, where they were discharged.

COMPANY A, EIGHTY-FIFTH REGIMENT.

This command was raised at Annapolis and sworn in at that place in August, 1862. Company A was presented with a beautiful silk flag by the ladies of Annapolis, Dr. J. S. Dare, on behalf of the ladies, making a neat speech. The company went to Terre Haute, where it elected Abner Floyd, captain; C. Sherman, first lieutenant; H. Ingraham, second lieutenant, and A. McCune, first sergeant. The regiment was organized September 2d and the next day went to Camp Morton, from which they were ordered to Camp Wallace, at Covington, Kentucky, where they were thoroughly drilled and then sent to Tennessee. In their first fight, at Thompson's Station, they made a gallant record, being in battle with their brigade against five brigades of Rebels, under Forrest. In this fight Captain Floyd was killed. The Union men fought all day against an overwhelming number and every round of ammunition was fired before they would surrender. The prisoners were taken to Richmond, where they were confined twenty-six days and then returned to Indianapolis, exchanged and again sent to Franklin, Tennessee. When Sherman concentrated his matchless army for the Atlanta campaign, this regiment went to Chattanooga and was assigned to his command. Company A was in the fierce charge upon the hills of Resaca, driving Rebels from works which seemed impregnable, and took part in the battles of Cassville, Dallas Wood, Golgotha Church, Culp's Farm, Peach Tree Creek and many more, and when Atlanta finally fell and was "fairly won" and Sherman again took the field, Company A went with him to the sea, marching through Georgia, to Savannah, and on through the two Carolinas to Richmond. From Richmond, they went to Washington, D. C., and back to Indianapolis and were discharged.

COMPANY B, EIGHTY-FIFTH REGIMENT.

This organization was effected as a part of the Eighty-fifth Indiana Volunteers and was begun in July, 1862, and completed by electing Francis Brooks, captain; David Phillips, first lieutenant; Robert Clark, second lieutenant. The company left Camp Dick Thompson, at Terre Haute, with the regiment, September 3, 1862, and went via Indianapolis and Cincinnati, to



Kentucky, where it struck the Kirby Smith raiders and lay in line of battle several days and nights without a single cartridge. It soldiered along through the "dark and bloody ground" and was then ordered to Tennessee. Its first engagement was at Thompson's Station, where it behaved well, but, with other portions of the regiment, was captured and taken to Libby prison. The prison life caused the death of nine members of the company. After its release and exchange, it again entered the field and participated in the Atlanta campaign, "down to the sea," through the two Carolinas and on to Washington, D. C., where it took part in that greatest of all military pageantries, the Grand Review. It was then mustered out.

COMPANY F, ELEVENTH INDIANA CAVALRY.

This company was chiefly organized by Capt. Daniel A. Porter, in the autumn of 1863. First Lieutenant D. Phillips and a man named Taylor, with a party of Illinoisians, was sent to help form the required number. Taylor was elected second lieutenant, but never commanded, John E. Woodward being afterwards chosen by the men, received his commission as second lieutenant. The Eleventh, greatly to its disappointment and in violation of the promise made the soldiers at their enlistment, was not immediately mounted and placed in duty on the front. They were scattered by companies along the Memphis & Charleston railroad in the spring of 1864 in Alabama, where disease killed more than the bullets would have. In the fall the regiment was driven in by Hood's advance, mounted at Nashville and sent to meet him at Columbia, Tennessee. The regiment, one of those forming Stewart's brigade, Hatch's division, made a complete circuit of the Rebel army and its many battalions, moving by different routes and often in close quarters with the enemy. Company F, with three others, was on one occasion almost entirely surrounded, charged by three columns and shelled at three hundred yards' distance. The greater part of the command escaped by cutting their way out to the Nashville pike. There about thirty men rallied and drove back the front of the Rebel advance, re-took the prisoners and retired in good order, as the heavy columns of the Texas cavalry came up. The battalion that evening lost nearly one hundred men in killed, wounded and missing. This was known by soldiers as "Spring Hill fight." At Franklin, the Eleventh was on the left flank of Schofield's army, but not in actual engagement, as there was no place for cavalry to operate. They made a good record at Nashville, the regiment fighting dismounted, taking eight out of sixteen Rebel cannon. It is said that Frank Howard was the first man to capture a

gun. Of two hundred and fifty men in the last charge at dark, they lost thirty-seven men in less than three minutes. Bert Chapman, the orderly in command (acting adjutant), showed soldierly qualities. He stayed through the thick of the fight, refusing to let a serious lameness from an old wound keep him out of the battle. John Lindley, a sergeant, rode a white horse through a corn field, where the Eleventh left most of its dead lying, at which point the field officers and Lindley dismounted and led the brigade to its last charge, just as the curtain of night fell, and took in four of the Rebel guns. From that point the company followed Hood, being all the time in front and almost daily engaged with his rear guard, until he crossed the Tennessee. Lindley was promoted to captain; Chapman to first lieutenant and Howard to second lieutenant. The regiment was sent west in May, 1865, riding from St. Louis to buffalo ranges in western Kansas. They were brought back and mustered out in the fall of that year.

#### THE HUNDRED-DAYS' MEN.

August 7, 1864, under the call for twenty thousand men from Indiana, to serve one hundred days, Company H, Indiana Legion—"Rockville Guards"—began to recruit, preparatory to offering the company organization to the volunteer service. The number was soon made up, a large number of Rockville men who would be accepted under the call, and many who could enlist for three years, volunteering. On Monday, May 9th, the company elected Milton Vance, captain; S. B. J. Bryant, first lieutenant; James Phalon, second lieutenant, and L. A. Foote, orderly, who was later made major of his regiment. The company left Tuesday for Indianapolis, accompanied to the depot in a heavy rain storm by a large crowd of ladies and gentlemen. At Indianapolis, the company presented their captain with a handsome sword, Private J. M. McLaughlin making the presentation speech, which was replied to by Captain Vance. After being organized as Company G, One Hundred and Thirty-third Indiana Volunteers, they left Indianapolis for Nashville, May 21st, and after a few days there were sent to Bridgeport, Alabama. They were as well drilled as any single command in the army at that date, but were never sent to the front, remaining at Bridgeport, doing guard duty, until mustered out of service.

## SECOND COMPANY.

Soon after the first company was sent South, another was recruited in Rockville. They, too, went to Indianapolis and were consolidated with part of a company from Madison county. They were sent to Nashville and then down the Nashville & Chattanooga railroad to Tullahoma, where they did similar service as the company that had preceded them. The last named was known as Company D, One Hundred and Thirty-Seventh regiment.

Thus ends the brief (imperfect in many ways) history of the military operations of the men who served from Parke county in defense of the Union, but this is the best that the author, at the mercy of imperfect records in the adjutant-general's office, can here furnish. It covers the chief events connected with the great struggle in which Parke county bore a very patriotic and important part. From first to last, Parke county sent out fourteen full companies, and more than half of five other companies. To these add the original volunteers in the Eleventh Indiana Regiment, the scattered ones in the Eighty-fifth Regiment, those in the Ninety-seventh and One Hundred and Fifteenth, the parts of companies in the One Hundred and Forty-ninth, the individuals in the sharp-shooters, the volunteers of 1864-5 on the gunboats and other detached squads and it is found that the county contributed not less than two thousand volunteers for the Union cause between 1861 and 1866. And remember, these were from a county that had a population of less than sixteen thousand souls when the war broke out. The county also raised funds for bounties and relief of \$234,970. Aside from the usual number of worthless men who always find their way into armies, in all wars, in all countries, the men from Parke were solid citizens, terribly in earnest in their devotion to the national interests. In the camp-fires, in the tented fields of the Southland, might have been heard discussions of every theme imaginable. The officers were in no degree superior to the privates, as a general rule. The volunteer from this county was a man of standing at home, and saw the necessity of being true to his convictions and bared his breast unflinchingly on many a hard-fought battle field. At this date (1912) but few survive to tell of the terrible battles and long marches. There are some, however, and they are respected by all for what they endured in the days when the country demanded good men. In 1883 there were one hundred and seventy-five of these ex-soldiers in Parke county who were drawing pensions from the United States. The number has been diminishing ever since, although the pensions were raised after that date, making the amounts paid

out here quite as large as a quarter of a century ago. Not alone did the sturdy farmer leave his plow in the field to enlist, but beside him stood the merchant, the lawyer, the doctor, the mechanic and the learned Greek and Latin scholars from institutions of learning. While Indiana had its backbiters at home,—its copper-head element,—the best citizens, both in public and private life, were men who stood by the Union in its hour of peril. Peace finally came, but not without great loss of blood and personal sacrifice on the part of Parke county soldiers.

With the many companies and regiments went forth many brave men who never returned to enjoy peace and long life among their people. By the wayside, on the hills, in the morasses and swamps of the far-off Southland; in the Golgothas around prison pens of Dixie, they sleep unshrouded, uncoffined and unknown, there to rest until the Angel shall proclaim the Resurrection Day, and bid the earth reveal her secrets. No gentle hand scatters flowers over their narrow homes. None go to weep where they rest hidden from sight and knowledge, but perchance the busy husbandmen plows o'er the spot where they lie in silence, and the wind in the tall grass chants its solemn requiem.

"On fame's eternal camping ground  
Their silent tents are spread;  
And glory guards with solemn sound  
The bivouac of the dead."

There were several of the pioneers here who served in the war with Mexico, in 1846-7, and the last one, A. P. Noel, died in 1911.

At the time of the Spanish-American war, 1898, a company was recruited in Rockville for that service, but were never called out, as the state quota was made up by use of the regular National Guard companies. This company, which would have gladly served, was largely from out the men belonging to the old Cadet and Battery companies of Rockville.

#### THE M'CUNE CADETS.

This was a military company organized as state militia and sworn into service, with forty-eight members, April 30, 1880. It secured quarters over the old woolen factory, which it used as an armory and where the members were drilled. The captain was Clinton Murphy; first lieutenant, Isaac R. Strouse; Frank E. Stevenson, sergeant, at first, but at the completion of the



organization in April, the following were elected: Clinton Murphy, captain; Frank E. Stevenson, first lieutenant; C. E. Lambert, second lieutenant; William L. Mason, orderly sergeant; Lannie L. Ticknor, second sergeant; William D. Stevenson, third sergeant; Frank H. Nichols, fourth sergeant; Tilghman Bryant, fifth sergeant; Isaac Strouse, first corporal; William W. Smith, second corporal; Benjamin Grimes, third corporal, and George C. Cole, fourth corporal. The state furnished this company with breech-loading Springfield rifles. They were neatly uniformed in navy blue coats and sky-blue trousers and caps. The cost of the uniforms was eleven dollars and seventy-five cents per suit.

After about five years, this company disbanded. At present Rockville is the headquarters for the Indiana Artillery, Major Stevens, commander; Major Frank E. Strauss, chief engineer of staff.

Another military company here is Company C Battery, whose officers are at present: Dennis Williams, captain; first lieutenants, James F. Anderson and R. E. Swope; second lieutenants, Frank J. Strain and William Elliott. This battery has a membership of one hundred men.

## CHAPTER VII.

### PARKE COUNTY'S RELIGIOUS SOCIETIES.

A majority of the pioneer band that invaded the wilds of what is now known as Parke county, Indiana, had been reared in the atmosphere, at least, of church influences, and many had been members of some one of the religious denominations in the communities from which they emigrated. So, at an early day, they began to look to the formation of religious societies here and to the erection of some place in which to worship the "true and living God." The good seed scattered away back there a century ago has kept on producing good fruitage and may now be seen welling up in the Christian spirit manifested on every hand within the borders of Parke county, the present home of numerous churches and a regular church-going people, grouped into several different denominations of both Protestant and Catholic faith, but all of whom own the Christ as their common Master.

Almost a third of a century ago it was written by J. H. Beadle, author of a history of this county, that the Catholic people had taken up their work in this country long before the Protestants, and that the standard of Rome had been planted on the banks of the Wabash long before it had in Geneva. "From this vantage ground Catholicism has been pushed by the aggressive energy of Protestant nations; England has triumphed over France and America over Spain and Mexico, till the Catholic power is confined to one small corner of North America, with a majority in no state and only in one territory of this nation. To the Missionary Baptists must be given the credit of the first church in Parke county, and to Rev. Isaac McCoy must be given the credit of having preached the first Protestant sermon in this county."

Long years afterward the Old-School Baptists, led by Matthew Noel, Austin M. Puett and others and ministered to by Elder Newport, founded a flourishing society in Rockville and built a brick church; but by slow degrees the society went down and the building was finally used for a carpenter shop, and at last torn down.

## THE BAPTIST DENOMINATION.

Aside from the pioneer church above mentioned, the Baptists have had the following churches within Parke county:

What was known as the New Discovery Baptist church was situated five miles from Rockville, on the Greencastle road. This society was formed August 29, 1834, with thirty-seven members. By 1879 it had a membership of seventy communicants. The church was built about 1845.

The Second Baptist church of Rockville was organized July 23, 1870, by Rev. L. Artis. It had a building on lot No. 1 of the original town plat. It cost one thousand five hundred dollars and was thirty by forty feet in size. This society originally had eleven members, but by 1880 had reached a membership of forty-one.

The Colored Free-Will Baptists organized in Rockville in May, 1880, with eleven members. They used the Second Baptist church each fourth Sabbath. Their first pastor was Rev. Isaac Hill.

The first church built in Union township was what was styled the Providence Baptist church and was called the "meeting house." It was built out of the raw material of the forest, with but little hewing. It stood in the southwest corner of the township and there was a graveyard near by it. In this house Benjamin Lambert, Jerre Baldwin, Samuel Medley and others exhorted. In the church yard nearby, the first to be buried was Moses Baldwin. Later this rude house of worship was abandoned and a better one, known as Mount Moriah, was built across the way in Greene township. The first church in the township of Union was built in 1828-31, and the one in Greene township referred to was erected in about 1840, on section 33, a frame structure thirty by forty feet, its cost being five hundred dollars. In 1874 the society built their third building on the site chosen in 1841, and this building cost them one thousand seven hundred dollars. Jesse McClain served as pastor forty years. In 1880 the membership of the church was sixty.

The history of the Baptist church in Bridgeton, as shown by records prepared in the seventies by Dr. J. W. P. Seller, was as follows: About 1850 Elder P. Swain came from the New Discovery church and held meetings in private houses around Bridgeton. After him came Rev. P. T. Palmer. At this time the members here belonged at New Discovery. About 1853 a committee made arrangements and erected a church at a cost of nine hundred dollars, it being thirty by fifty feet in size. On June 3, 1853, there convened at Bridgeton a council which represented the churches of New Discovery,

Freedom, Goshen and Liberty, and organized a society. Elder P. T. Palmer was moderator and R. Davis the church clerk. A joint letter of forty-two members from New Discovery church was presented, asking to be organized into a church, and were so organized by said council. Their first pastor was Peter M. Swaim. In the early eighties the membership had grown to about sixty-five. Since its organization up to 1879 there had been between three and four hundred persons taken into this society and several ministers had been ordained. As the first Baptist church here had been built by all classes it was used in common by all orthodox denominations. In 1879 a neat building was erected, at a cost of nine hundred dollars, and the membership then amounted to about forty.

A regular Baptist church was organized on section 32, Raccoon township, about 1835, with a membership of nearly thirty. The first preacher was Rev. Isaac W. Denman, who preached there fully forty years. He met his death August 31, 1875, by being run over by the cars. In 1858 a chapel was erected costing five hundred dollars, one-half of which Mr. Denman paid himself. The early members of this church have long since been gathered to their fathers.

In Liberty township a Baptist church was formed at a very early date and a building erected, which was followed in 1869 by another, costing two thousand eight hundred dollars, dedicated by Rev. C. B. Allen.

In Jackson township, about 1832, was built the first meeting house, and it was of the Baptist denomination and styled Rocky Forks church. The society was first formed by seven members. The old log "meeting house" stood more than a half century and until in the eighties.

#### PRESENT BAPTIST CHURCHES.

At this date (1912) there are the following Baptist churches within Parke county:

At Bridgeton, the church has a membership of twenty-seven, and its property is valued at \$1,500.

The Brown Valley church has a membership of one hundred eighteen; valuation of church, \$3,500.

Carbon has a church of twenty members, and the church is valued at \$1,800.

Friendly Grove, membership, ninety-nine; valuation property, \$1,200.

Friendship church has a membership of thirty-nine and a church valued at \$900.



Goshen church has a membership of fifty-eight and church property valued at \$1,500.

Marshall church has a membership of sixty and church property valued at \$2,000.

New Discovery church has a membership of one hundred thirty-four and property valued at \$2,500.

Rockville church has one hundred thirteen members and property valued at \$2,500.

Tennessee church has a membership of one hundred and church property valued at \$1,000.

Union has a church of seventy-six members and property valued at \$1,000.

#### PRESBYTERIAN CHURCHES.

This is among the pioneer church societies in Parke county, and fortunate it is that one of the pastors of the Rockville church found time, amid his labors, to prepare its early history, from which we draw largely for this article, so far as it relates to Rockville and vicinity. J. S. Rogers, church clerk, placed the item referred to on historic pages for the church.

"In the autumn of 1822 Rev. Charles C. Beatty, later a doctor of divinity at Steubenville, Ohio, then a young missionary, visited Parke county and gathered together a number of Presbyterian families, principally from Mercer county, Kentucky. Among that flock we find the names of Buchanan, Gilkeson, McMillen, Balch, Adams, Garrison, White, Anderson, Mann, Rankin and others, all living on Little Raccoon creek, between where Waveland now stands and the mouth of that stream. After preaching to them for some weeks, some times in groves and some times in private houses, he organized them into what was known as Shiloh Presbyterian church. In 1824 they erected a hewed-log meeting house for worship, near Little Raccoon creek, about four miles northeast of the town of Rockville. This was the first built in Parke county. The ruling elders were Amos P. Balch, William McMillan, Jonathan Garrison, James Buchanan and Henry Anderson. It is said that this church in 1830 reported some one hundred members to the general assembly. Revs. S. K. Snead, D. C. Proctor, Isaac Reed, Gideon Blackburn, Samuel Taylor, John Young and James Thompson visited the church and preached more or less to it prior to 1828, when Rev. Samuel H. McNutt, a young minister from Virginia, became stated supply to that people, and so continued until 1832. That year a large section of Shiloh church

and congregation, together with a number who had removed from other states to Rockville, resolved to start a new enterprise at that place. Accordingly, on August 11, 1832, after a sermon by the Rev. John Thompson, a church consisting of forty members was organized, with the Rev. S. H. McNutt as pastor. Henry Anderson, James L. Allen and James McCampbell were chosen ruling elders; the two latter were then ordained and the three installed as ruling elders of the Rockville Presbyterian church. Early in 1833 they erected the old First church.

In 1835 Rev. McNutt, who had served the church as stated supply, became the regular pastor, and officiated as such until 1846, when by mutual consent his pastoral relations to the church was dissolved, and he was followed by the Rev. William Y. Allen. In March, 1839, the church reported one hundred and thirty members to the general assembly, only nine of whom remained in the bounds of the congregation in 1877, a large number having died and removed, many emigrating to the far West. In 1880 Dr. Beaty was the only surviving minister of old Shiloh; all the members of the old organization have passed away except John C. Gilkeson and Margaret and Isabella Gilkeson. In 1839 forty-one members withdrew and formed a separate church known as the Second Presbyterian church of Rockville (New School). The First Presbyterian church was now known as Old School. In April, 1842, the First church reported one hundred and sixteen members; in 1843, one hundred and thirty-four; and in 1845, one hundred and forty-four, which last number was the largest ever reported. In 1859, the membership was about ninety. \* \* \* In 1862, Rev. W. Y. Allen requested the church to unite with him in asking the presbytery to dissolve the pastoral relation existing between him and the church, both of which requests were granted, and after a pastorate of almost sixteen years Mr. Allen closed his labors in this pulpit. The Rev. S. H. McNutt succeeded as stated supply one year, and was succeeded in June, 1863, by the Rev. Reaubien in the same capacity. The latter resigned in November, 1864, and moved to Philadelphia. The pulpit was then practically vacant for one year, after which Rev. John Mitchell served a year and resigned. Rev. Dr. Jewett, a Congregational minister from Terre Haute, came next and supplied the church until the reunion in 1869. In 1866 James R. McArthur, from Alabama, was added to the bench of elders, and in 1868 D. H. Maxwell, T. N. Rice and W. L. McMillen were ordained ruling elders. The three last, with J. C. Gilkeson and Levi Sidwell, constituted the bench of elders at the time of the reunion. On April 22, 1839, forty-one members withdrew and organized the Second

Presbyterian church of Rockville (New School), as before mentioned. James L. Allen and David Todd were chosen ruling elders. Rev. S. G. Lowry, of Crawfordsville, was the stated supply from July 15, 1839, to July 15, 1847. During his pastorate one hundred and twenty-three members were received into the church. A house of worship was erected, and on November 22, 1840, was dedicated, the sermon being preached by Rev. John S. Thompson, of Crawfordsville. In 1847, Rev. Lowry was succeeded by Rev. W. M. Cheever, who was the next year regularly installed pastor, and continued as such until the latter part of the year 1849, when he gave way to the Rev. W. D. Rositer. The fruits of Mr. Cheever's ministry was the addition of twenty-eight into the church. Rev. George A. Adams preached from 1852 to 1855, and added thirteen to the church. Rev. John A. Tiffany succeeded Mr. Adams in 1856, and remained as stated supply two years, in which time nine united with the church. In the early part of 1859, Rev. John O. Blythe began his labors, remaining eight months and receiving two into the church. The next stated supply was Rev. John Hawks, whose period of service extended from 1859 to 1866. During six years of this time one hundred and four members were added to the congregation. On February 3, 1862, I. G. Coffin, previously elected, was ordained a ruling elder. The spring and summer months of 1867 found the pulpit only occasionally supplied, but on October 23d the Rev. John M. Bishop began his ministrations.

"On June 11, 1869, the elders of this society addressed a communication to the First Presbyterian church of Rockville, proposing a union of the two, and at a congregational meeting of that church, held July 17-22, the proposition was accepted. Accordingly, on December 29th the union was formally consummated at a called meeting of the Greencastle presbytery, convened at Terre Haute, the Crawfordsville presbytery, to which the First church belonged, having previously set it off for that purpose. Rev. John M. Bishop was continued pastor of the united church until October 23, 1872, when Rev. Henry L. Dickerson was installed stated supply. Early in the summer of 1877 the latter resigned his charge and removed to Danville, Indiana. Rev. William H. Hillis was the next to serve as pastor."

It may be stated that in 1880 this church had a membership of one hundred and forty-one. In 1870 a fine large brick edifice was erected and served well its purpose until the present church structure was built in 1891, or rather remodeled, and is known as Memorial church. A pipe organ was added in April, 1910, at a cost of two thousand five hundred dollars. The present membership of this church is two hundred and sixty. The pastors since the

last mentioned have been as follows: Revs. W. H. Hillis, from 1879 to 1881; James Omelvena, from 1881 to August, 1887; James Kerns, from January 17, 1887, to 1888; J. H. Sharrard, from May 17, 1888, to March 20, 1895; J. P. Roth, from June 17, 1896, to May 29, 1899; J. C. Christie, from 1899 to 1903; H. L. Nave, from January 10, 1904, to 1908; W. B. Chancellor, from 1908 to the present date.

In conclusion, it may be added that when the Old and New School churches united, the bells of the two societies were taken from their respective buildings and recast into one which hangs in the tower in the rear of the new church. This is indeed a beautiful symbol of the perfect union of the two church bodies. The old Second church building, in the west part of town, was converted into a carriage shop for Foster Brothers. The old First church was sold to John Tate and others and for a time used for school purposes. Afterwards the Colored Baptists held services in it and later it became an implement house.

In Liberty township, in 1847, a Presbyterian congregation was organized with twenty members, and the following year a meeting house was built. It was burned and rebuilt in 1877, at a cost of eight hundred dollars. Rev. James Ashmore was the first pastor of which we have any record. Rev. T. A. Williams was pastor in 1880 and then the church had a membership of sixty.

In Reserve township a Presbyterian church was erected in 1853. The first minister was Rev. John Hawks, who organized the congregation and carried on the building operations of the first church. He was succeeded by Rev. Thomas Griffith and he by Rev. William Wilmer, who in the later seventies was followed by Rev. Stinson from Kentucky, who had about forty members under his charge.

In Adams township, the New Bethel Presbyterian church was located on the Rockville gravel road, two and a half miles out of Rockville. It was organized in 1859 by twelve members. For a time the congregation worshiped in the school house, but later a nine hundred dollar church building was erected. Rev. John Hawke was the first pastor of this church. At one time more than sixty names were on the church roll and forty were added after a single revival period. For many years this society was the means of doing a great deal of good in the community in which it was located.

At Judson, in Washington township, there was a Presbyterian church organized early in the seventies and in 1873 a building was erected by this denomination and the Methodists in union.



Another Presbyterian church was formed in Liberty township March 10, 1876, Rev. J. W. Hanna being the first preacher. This never came to be a large congregation.

#### PRESENT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCHES.

In 1912 the Presbyterian churches of this county are located as follows: Rockville, Memorial church, with two hundred and sixty members; Mt. Herman church, at Howard, which was moved in from the country in 1901 and now has a membership of fifty-five; New Bethel, three and a half miles out of Rockville, an old society that has virtually gone down, but the few remaining members still hold the church property, and have occasional services; the Guion-Judson church with fifty-five members; Bethany church was a country church until about 1910, when it was removed to the town of Marshall and now has a membership of ninety-one; Montezuma has a Presbyterian church of thirty members and owns its own manse.

The Cumberland Presbyterians had a joint building in Liberty township at one time and a small congregation.

#### UNITED PRESBYTERIANS.

A society of this denomination was organized in Greene township in 1858, by the union of the Associate Reform Presbyterians, Associate Presbyterians and Covenanters. The next year they commenced to erect a place for worship, which was finished in 1860. Its cost was less than eight hundred dollars. William G. Spenser was the first ordained minister of this church. In 1880 the society had a membership of forty-four. The church was located on section 35.

This branch of Presbyterianism was founded in Scotland in 1733 by members who disliked certain things connected with the old Presbyterian creed. In 1753 it established its first church in this country, at Philadelphia. In 1779 this sect united with the Reformed Presbyterians and formed the Associate Presbyterian denomination. The Associate Presbyterian church of Portland Mills, originally called the Raccoon, was organized February 19, 1820, by Rev. James P. Miller, a missionary worker appointed by the synod. The first pastor here was Rev. Nathaniel Ingels, who was followed by James Dixon, who after a quarter of a century of faithful work, rested from his labors. The first meeting house was made of logs and was erected in 1831. This was succeeded in 1850 by a large frame building and again in 1874

another took the place of that structure and cost the congregation two thousand six hundred dollars. It seated six hundred persons.

At present the denomination has in this county is not strong, if indeed there be an organization at all.

#### CHRISTIAN CHURCHES.

The Christian church at Rockville was organized in September, 1838, with sixteen members, and the next year a church building 30 by 40 feet was erected on lot No. 73 of the original town plat. William Cooper was the contractor and Joseph Ralston assisted him in the work of building. For twenty years and more this sect carried forward a praiseworthy work. In 1858 a large number of the members relaxed their connection when a re-organization was effected, thirty-nine men and women placing their names on the new roll. In 1862 there were over eighty communicants. Strong interest was manifested for a time, but in 1865 the church became completely disorganized and lapsed for a period of ten years, no service being held during that time. On February 23, 1875, a society of Christians was formed from the Boyd school house. Both that and the preaching place were called "Whitehall." By August, 1875, through Thomas Boardman, the church was transferred to Rockville, to unite with those of the same faith in that town. The congregation was raised to sixty-four members. At the end of four years attendance flagged and not over a dozen attended services. Accordingly, on November 21, 1879, Thomas Boardman addressed a letter to each of the brethren exhorting them to attend on the 30th and assist in another organization. This call was answered by thirty-one persons renewing their membership. Of the present of this church it may be said, that it now numbers about one hundred and thirty and has a frame edifice and property worth about five thousand dollars. This was built in 1894. The present pastor is Rev. William T. Barbre, now on his fifth year as the minister.

At Catlin a Christian church was organized in Racoon township, about 1867, with a membership of forty-two. A house of worship was erected at a cost of one thousand six hundred dollars in the village of Catlin. In 1871-2 Jacob Wright held a well attended revival. This church had its own troubles from time to time, and the faithful few numbered only twenty-five in 1880. The building still stands, but the society has gone down.

In Jackson township, the Christians erected a church thirty by forty feet, in 1873, which building cost two thousand dollars, and had a seating capacity of five hundred. Previous to that these people worshiped with the

Methodists, in the grove and at the mill. The house was dedicated April 10, 1874, by Thomas Goodman. Here numerous revivals and special services were held and many were added to the church on profession of faith. This church is located in the sprightly little town of Lena. The church here is not flourishing well at this date.

In Greene township the Christian people built the first house of worship in 1839 at Portland Mills, "in the face of secular opposition," wrote one of its leaders many years since. Up to 1880 there had been established three distinct societies of this order in this township, the first in 1839, which society erected a church in 1850, costing one thousand five hundred dollars. The first minister was Rev. J. M. Harris. The second was the congregation that built a building at Bank's Springs, on section 5, in 1840, and this was a log structure, followed by a frame house thirty-five by forty feet. The third society was one that joined with other denominations of the community in erecting a union church building at Parkville, in 1865. This building burned later. In 1870, the Christians, through the efforts of James H. Jack, built a church costing one thousand seven hundred dollars. This was free to all denominations when not in use by this people.

In Sugar Creek township, Pleasant Grove Christian church (New Light), so called by many, was instituted at the school house in 1868, where meetings continued to be held until 1870, when a church was erected thirty-two by forty-two feet, costing one thousand dollars. Rev. L. W. Bannon was the first minister and organizer, and began with a membership of thirty persons. In 1881 this church had a working membership of one hundred and sixty.

The New Lights, or a branch (or another name for Christians), built in Howard township in 1835 a log building in which to worship. It served a decade, when they purchased the old Missionary Baptist church in conjunction with the Methodist people and occupied the same jointly.

At present (1912) the Christian churches of Parke county are: The Rockville church. Union church, four miles west of Rockville, has fifty members, but no regular pastor. Christian chapel, or Daly's church, in the south part of the county where Rev. Chester Fiddler, of Terre Haute, preaches occasionally; membership about ninety. At Mecca, this society has a good frame building and a small congregation. At Montezuma, there is an old church and a congregation of about forty membership. At Bloomingtondale the church numbers about one hundred and twenty, worships in a frame building, Rev. Elvin Daniels, preacher. At Byron, there is a brick

church and about seventy-five members; Rev. C. C. Dobson, of Brownsburg, preaches here. At Parkville there is a frame church and about sixty membership; Rev. Bratton preaches once a month. At Bellemore and Coxville there are church buildings, but no regular services at this date.

#### METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCHES.

It is believed that Methodism was first taught in Parke county by the giant preacher from old Virginia, Rev. William Cravens, who probably preached the first Methodist sermon north of Big Raccoon creek, and he, with Father Armstrong, John Strange and William H. Smith, founded the church in Parke county. There was preaching here long before there was any organized society of Methodists, but in 1823 there were enough of the Methodist faith here to meet in classes formed and which met at private houses, and at least as early as 1826 Rev. William Smith, later known by all as "Billy Smith," preached regularly in the old log court house on the north side of the public square in Rockville. It was probably in 1826 that the church was regularly organized, and from that time on religious pioneering went forward with the felling of forest trees and the killing out of snakes and wolves, both so numerous here then. The early church books show the names of Cornelius Sunderland and wife, and Greenberg and Lavicie Ward. In 1828 Rev. Samuel Brinton took charge of the church as its regular pastor. His labors were mightily blessed and for many years this was the most prosperous church within Parke county.

From the pen of Editor and Author Beadle, of Rockville, and from historic accounts published in the *Rockville Tribune*, the writer is able to here reproduce the early history of the Methodist church at Rockville, which is indeed complete and very interesting. We quote as follows from this historic account given in 1879-80:

"The chastening and hallowed influences of the gospel followed close upon the footsteps of the pioneers; and a settler's cabin was hardly up before an itinerant was there with his Bible and hymn book, gathering the family for devotion around the altar in the wilderness. The first settlers were an intensely earnest people; they manifested no half-way religious feeling, but worked for the Lord as they worked for themselves, with loud shouts and heavy blows. An early missionary in these parts, probably the first of the Methodist faith in the county, and the one above named, was William Cravens of Virginia, a fearless and remarkable man. He was a mason by trade, and



had been dissipated, but was converted and took a singular and solemn vow of abstinence by putting his bottle into, and making it a part of, a wall which he was building. He was powerful of frame, a slaveholder, and quite wealthy. He abandoned his former vices, and liberated his slaves. Taking the pulpit, he assailed the great evils of Southern society; he declaimed against drinking, gambling, horse-racing and slavery as an institution. This provoked dangerous opposition, and mobs threatened his life. But he was bold as a lion. With Christian intrepidity he sent his appointments to those who waited for his coming with vengeance in their hearts, never failing to meet his engagements at the stated hour, nor to utter with unshaken firmness his daring sentiments. He became famous in Virginia as a preacher, and hardly less noted in Indiana. He did his Master's work and counted not the cost. John Strange and another named Armstrong, able and distinguished men who left flattering and fascinating traditions among the people, planted Methodism in this part of Parke county. Accounts are given of Methodist preaching as early as 1822. In 1824 Grimes was the circuit rider, and meetings were held at John Leinbarger's on the Leatherwood, and at James Starin's on the Big Raccoon. The last place is now called Pleasant Valley. A church was subsequently built there, but in the seventies had become unfit for use and was abandoned. After Grimes came Anderson, a brother-in-law of Strange. The latter was a powerful teacher of the word; it is said that he was the first presiding elder, and was followed by Armstrong and James Thompson. The first log building in Rockville occupied for stated religious services was the old log court house; this was used until the brick school house, long since gone into decay, was constructed. In 1832, the Methodists, Baptists and Presbyterians were still using this building for church services. The new court house was then used by all denominations. Occasionally there were great awakenings, and within these buildings were stirring revivals. The old Presbyterian church, the first house of worship, proper, erected in Rockville, was built in 1833. The Methodists enjoyed the privilege of its frequent use. In 1834, the sainted Bishop Roberts visited Rockville, and by invitation of Rev. McNutt preached in this house. A little later in the same season, Richard Hargrave, a talented young Methodist divine, was passing through the country and was invited to deliver a sermon in this Presbyterian church. He delivered in all nine discourses which it is alleged set the people to thinking on theology. It should be remarked that among the leading men were found many skeptics.

"Cornelius Sunderland was foremost in founding the first class. Smith

was on the circuit in 1826 and laid the foundation of Methodist success. A little later came Cornelius Swank and Samuel Brinton, when many were received into the church. Swank was a better man than a preacher. Still later came Samuel Cooper. Prominent among the lay members of those early days were: Elisha Adamson and wife, Samuel Noel, John Linkswiler and wife Rebecca, Samuel Baker, David Reeder, James Justus, Scott Noel and wife, Gen. John Meacham, Mark Meacham, Dr. Peter Q. Stryker, John-son S. White and wife Hannah, Thompson Ward and wife, Miles Hart and wife, Uncle Perry Cummings, Greenberry Ward, Governor Wright and wife Louisa, and those whose names have been lost with the flight of years. For several years between 1833 and 1850 the society was divided into three classes; one met at the church right after service, one at Governor Wright's house, and the other at Dr. Stryker's house. An era of great prosperity to the church began in 1833 and continued till 1850. In the spring of 1855, there was a powerful revival and many members were added to the church. Mrs. Elisha Adamson was a spiritual and talented woman and Mrs. Governor Wright was an exceedingly pious and hard working church laborer, who always shouted in meeting. Miss Mary Watt was another devoted Christian lady. In these three gifted women the spirit of fervent work and consecration were happily blended and sweetly displayed. Miss Watt was a school teacher and died in 1847."

The society had used successively the log court house, the brick school house, and the new court house, but in 1837 decided to build a church. Their numbers were indeed few enough, and their means small enough, for such an undertaking, and the burden came heavily on the few abler ones. But they succeeded in building a large house, now long since known as the "Old Church." It was finally sold to the African Methodist people and used by them until about 1900, when it was torn down. It is related that Samuel Noel mortgaged his farm for money with which to complete this church building, and possibly others did the same thing. Its cost was two thousand five hundred dollars. A parsonage was built two or three years later. The Indiana conference was held in this building the year after its completion. It served the congregation twenty-eight years and was then abandoned, the society returning for another year to the court house. Rev. Thomas Meredith held the last services in the old church in 1865. The next spring the foundation for a new building was laid, and that year the house was finished. Rev. Meredith circulated the subscription and raised the money with which to build the church. It was erected on lot 30 of the original town plat of Rockville. The oldest record book begins at the datings in 1837-8.

Of the present church building and society at Rockville, let it be understood that the church erected in 1865-6 served until about 1900, when it was really rebuilt, the old walls being used and new ones provided to enlarge the church somewhat and in 1910 the building was thoroughly overhauled and a new front and rear rooms and modern basement constructed, really making a new church edifice of the old structure, giving the present commodious building. These recent improvements cost the church ten thousand dollars and included the furnace heating plants, a splendid pipe organ, a large gallery, carpets, stained windows, etc. It was dedicated by Bishop David H. Moore, February 13, 1910. What is known as the Mary L. Noel parsonage belongs to this society and is valued at five thousand dollars.

This is in the Greencastle district of the Methodist church. The present membership in Rockville is three hundred and eighty-seven, and the church is valued at twenty thousand dollars, which is exclusive of the parsonage property. Since 1880, the pastors have been in the following order: Revs. John L. Boyd, 1880; L. S. Buckles, 1884; O. R. Beebe, 1885; J. G. Campbell, 1887; F. M. Pvey; John A. Maxwell, 1895; T. F. Drake, 1896; S. P. Colvin began in 1896; H. N. Ogden, 1900; H. L. Davis, 1901; F. W. Hixson, 1903; D. D. Hoagland, 1906; A. P. Delong, 1908; Alfred S. Warriener, 1910 and still pastor in 1912-3.

In Reserve township a Methodist church was formed shortly after the settlement at Montezuma, on the old canal. The church building was erected in 1840, by Rev. Hezekiah Smith, who visited the vicinity about that date and infused fresh spiritual life into the settlement. In 1880 the records show a membership there of seventy.

In Union township, the first Methodist class meetings were held at the home of Thomas C. Burton. Much later and in 1846 Canaan church was erected. This region was then a part of Rockville circuit, but later was known as the Bellemore circuit. In 1868 the society built a new church at Bellemore. Bishop Bowman dedicated this building.

In Raccoon township the first work of Methodism was the first of any within the township; the date cannot now be determined, but suffice to state that it was at a very early pioneer day. A society was there organized in 1825, but preaching had been had, long before that. Another society was organized at about the same date at the neighborhood of the brother of the noted Rev. John Strange. A church was built on the farm of James Crabb. The first to become pastor in Pleasant Valley was Rev. William Taylor. This church was quite successful for some time. In 1859 a twenty-one-day

revival was held and many added to the church. In 1855, at Pleasant Valley, a church was built, and at one time there were more than a hundred and ten members enrolled. The society at Bridgeton was organized in 1866.

In Penn township the Methodists organized and built a church in 1850, under Rev. H. Smith and in 1879 there were over a hundred members.

In Florida township, as in most other townships in the county, barring a few only, the Methodists were first in starting church work. The first Methodist preaching in this township was held at private houses. Rev. William Mac, a local minister, did the first work for the church in this region, holding his first meeting at the home of David D. Loree. In 1834, Isaac Owens came in as the pioneer missionary minister, preaching his first sermon at the house of Capt. Daniel Stringham, a Revolutionary soldier. At that meeting eleven united with the church. Meetings were subsequently held in Mr. Loree's barn and carriage house. The place of meeting was then changed to a school house in the northwest corner of the township and still later to one on Benjamine Newton's land. The first church in the township was built by this denomination. In the spring of 1850 Friend C. Brown deeded an acre of ground in section 7, to the trustees of the Methodist Episcopal church of Florida for the purpose of erecting a church upon it. In 1872 a second church was provided to take the place of the old one. A well planned cemetery was made near this church, and there repose the remains of many of the devoted members, as well as others long since departed from earthly scenes. In the northwestern portion of the township is another handsome building erected by this same society, at the foot of the bluff, around which, on the side of the hill, is a beautiful cemetery.

In 1830 Elijah Ward held meetings in the houses of settlers, and later in the log school house, and in a store building, finally at Roseville, where Rev. William Black preached the first sermon in 1850. In 1860 a frame building was erected at an expense of one thousand two hundred dollars. In the autumn of 1870 forty members, under Rev. Thomas Marshall, commenced holding meetings in the Dailey school house and effected an organization. Another part of the Roseville congregation organized a church at Cox's school house in the summer of 1860. Churches or classes were also formed at the Doty school house in 1878 and other points within this township which has ever been noted for its Methodism.

In Liberty township a Methodist church was erected in 1846, costing three hundred and fifty dollars in cash and much hard labor. The membership at one time was two hundred, but dwindled to twenty-five by 1880. Rev. Isaiah Smith was the first preacher there.



In Jackson township, prior to 1856, worshiped the Methodists in school houses, as best they could, but at that date they decided to build, Mansfield was chosen as the building site and an edifice was built at a cost of eight hundred dollars.

Prior to 1872 the people of the Methodist faith living in the south portion of this township concluded to have better church home facilities, hence built a neat church at Lena, at a cost of one thousand three hundred dollars.

In Washington township, in about 1872-3, a Methodist society was organized by Rev. James C. Stemor.

In Sugar Creek township a congregation was organized in 1855, in a school house near Daniel Heath's residence of later days, where they worshiped until 1858, when they built a frame house, which was burned by incendiaries during the Civil war. The house was rebuilt in 1862 and opened for worship in January of that year. The society was constituted through the efforts of Mr. Edwards, an old Welsh gentleman. It was formed with fourteen members and in 1880 had thirty-four. A building then in use cost one thousand one hundred dollars.

In Howard township the first church of this or any denomination was of rough logs and was erected in 1833, and known as McKenzie's chapel. William Smith and William Bilbo were the prime movers in the formation of this class. Samuel Cooper was their first minister.

The African Methodist Episcopal church at Rockville was organized in 1872 by the Rev. Jesse Bass. Patrick Thomas and Louisa Black began a protracted effort in Rockville, in May, at Thomas's house, and carried their meetings from house to house. In five weeks they were able to form a society, composed of the following persons: Patrick Thomas, Louisa Black, William Lewis, Samuel Kirkman, William Brower, Sarah Williams, Jesse Brower, Eli Kirkman, Cynthia Kirkman, Ransome Coble, John Robinson, George Robinson, George Williams and Jerry Craven. This earnest little band of colored worshipers, as soon as they had organized, purchased the old Methodist Episcopal church, for one thousand five hundred dollars. Among the first pastors were Revs. Nathan Bass, John McSmith, John Hart, John Myers, Johnson Burden and W. S. Lankford. The church building was described in 1880 as being forty-four by sixty feet on the ground, and was a good substantial building, standing on lot number 20, in the West division, and had a frontage of one hundred feet and was one hundred and sixty feet deep. They soon added to the building and provided a comfortable parsonage, the entire property having cost them two thousand dollars. They

were, in 1880, free from all debts, save the small sum of forty dollars. The society then numbered sixty-five. The Sunday school then numbered forty-nine pupils, Prof. John Wilson being superintendent and Augustus Roberts, secretary.

The above named building served until about 1900, when it was torn down and the present building erected on its site. The church now has a membership of about forty-two persons and, while not large in numbers, is doing an excellent work among and for the few colored population of Rockville who espouse the Methodist Episcopal faith. The present district superintendent or presiding elder, Rev. Charles Hunter, has charge of the work in a very large scope of Indiana territory and is an old soldier of the Civil war, a man of good learning, extended travel and highly intelligent, just the right man to forward the best interests of the church and in every way equal to many of the white presiding elders in this and adjoining states. The present pastor is Rev. Handy Thompson, who has recently been appointed to Rockville church.

At one time there were two other churches of this denomination within this county, but owing to removals of the floating colored population these have ceased to exist as societies.

#### LORENZO DOW AT ROCKVILLE.

From an interview with the pioneer lady, Mrs. George W. Sill, in the eighties, the subjoined is gleaned:

"A few years after the noted Lorenzo Dow was announced to preach here and the word was sent all over the county, awakening great interest. The day came, and with it as motley a congregation as Parke county ever saw. A huge log, roughly leveled, was the pulpit. Near it were a few seats occupied by the women and young children, and a few of the most "subdued" men. Behind them for some distance were all sorts and conditions of people, sitting on logs and stumps, or stood leaning on their long rifles, or against the trees. On the outskirts of the crowd were several hunters clad in buck-skin with beaded moccasins, the whole adorned by the handiwork of squaws, and to one side was a small group of Franco-Indian half breeds and with them two or three full blooded Indians. No one had seen the preacher enter the crowd, when most unexpectedly he bounded on the log and, doffing his wolf-skin cap, glared around in a manner that seemed more like insanity than anything else, giving them near him a decided shock. In a minute the

whole audience was hushed; then in a strange, quavering voice, drawing the vowel sounds to great length, now recited these lines:

‘The day is almost gone,  
The evening shades appear;  
Oh, may we all remember well  
The night of death draws near.’

“The effect was electric; every eye in the motley audience was fixed on the speaker, as if by a terrible fascination and having thus prepared the way, he proceeded to preach in a more natural tone. His illustrations were drawn largely from the common life of his hearers. He spoke of their combats with wolves and serpents, and symbolized the contests of the human soul; he touched upon their early trials and ill health, and pointed to the Comforter; he alluded to children already buried in the young settlement and to the graves of kindreds already left behind, and dwelt with great energy on the promise of a re-union in the skies. The few who remember the scene cannot say that any marked or permanent effect was produced. Most of the hearers came from mere curiosity and were too much interested in the preacher’s eccentricities to weigh his words.”

#### PRESENT METHODIST CHURCHES.

In the autumn of 1912 the following churches of this denomination were in existence in Parke county:

Bellemore and Marshall circuit, 175 members; value of church property \$4,000. Aside from this there is one parsonage valued at \$700. Pastor, T. B. Markin.

Bloomingtondale, with 143 membership, a \$1,200 parsonage and a church valued at \$6,400. Pastor, O. M. McKinney.

Carbon and Sharon circuit, membership, 100; two churches valued at \$5,000. Pastor, Ray Stevenson.

Catlin and Minchel circuit, with a membership of 170, two churches, valued at \$6,000. This circuit included Bridgeton. Pastor, Jesse Bogue.

Linebarger chapel, membership 36, church valued at \$1,500. Pastor, Julius Pfeiffer.

Mecca and Bethel circuit, with a membership of 130; three buildings, valued at \$6,000. Pastor, Herbert Webster.

Montezuma, with a membership of 150; a brick church valued at \$6,000. Pastor, J. J. Davis.

Rockville, with a membership of 387, one church valued at \$20,000; parsonage valued at \$5,000. Pastor, Alfred S. Warriener.

Rosedale, with a membership of 164, one church valued at \$6,000; one parsonage valued at \$3,000. Pastor, C. C. Stanforth.

The above pastors were serving in 1911 and some of them in 1912.

In addition to these the African Methodist Episcopal have a church spoken of elsewhere, at Rockville.

#### UNITED BRETHREN CHURCHES.

This denomination was organized into a church society in Penn township in 1840, but no church was erected until about 1869. It was thirty by forty feet in size. The church was formed by Isaac Pickard and John Ephlin at a point a mile to the east of Annapolis, in Washington township.

In Union township this people was well represented at an early day. They frequently met at James Bulion's or John McGilvery's houses; also at Moses Hill's or Charles Beache's. In 1849 a church was erected on section 30, called Otterbein. The society grew rapidly and in 1873-4 there were reported forty-one members as having been added thereto. In 1866 about forty of these people met at the Martin school house to organize a class and Joseph McCrary was chosen leader. In March, 1867, they held a revival and thirty-one were added to the society. A thirty-by-forty-foot frame church was erected and dedicated in November, 1867. James A. Smith was minister in charge at that date.

In Sugar Creek township there was in existence in the seventies another United Brethren church in the Bristle Ridge neighborhood.

#### THE LUTHERANS.

There not being a large German population in Parke county, this denomination has never had many societies or churches. In 1830, however, the Philadelphia Lutheran Church Society built its church in Greene township. It was a log building, used as school house and church. Within a year after its completion it was burned. In 1835 a second building was erected on Big Raccoon, this being a frame structure. Matthias Sappinfield was a leader in this society. In 1866 another church was built at a cost of fifteen hundred dollars and was located in Greene township on section 15. At first this society numbered fifty, but owing to emigration it was greatly reduced in the



passage of years. Several Lutheran ministers went forth after being educated here and made for themselves names in the theological world.

#### ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCHES.

The first Catholic services of which we have an account in Parke county was in 1854, at the house of Martin Ryan, three miles south of Rockville. Mass was read by Rev. La Lamere, who was then the parish priest at Terre Haute. Rev. Highland was then appointed by the bishop to the missions of Rockville, Montezuma, Greencastle and Bainbridge. He first read mass at James Kinney's and later at the home of Patrick Riordan, where it was held at different times for seven years. Finally, a church was built by Father Minerod. The members of every other church generously donated to this building enterprise. Services were then held, but not oftener, as a rule, than once in a month or two. James Bowman gave instructions to the children of the parish for a number of years. Next this work was carried on by Mrs. E. J. Hughes, who voluntarily gave her services.

In Reserve township what was styled the Church of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary was established after the Civil war. Father McCarty was the first priest in charge. A church house was erected at a cost of one thousand dollars, the lot having been donated by Mr. Davis, of Rockville, late in the seventies. A dwelling for the priest was soon built near the chapel, while the cemetery was located two miles south of town. This Catholic church was formed in the town of Montezuma.

#### OTHER CATHOLIC CHURCHES.

In the autumn of 1912 the Catholic society had churches in Parke county as follows: At Rockville, where the present building was built in 1886, and is in charge of Father Gorman; it is known as St. Joseph's. There is a church at Mecca, one at Montezuma and one at Diamond, all of these congregations being served by the Rockville pastor, except the one at Diamond which is under Father Cobb.

#### SOCIETY OF FRIENDS.

More than a quarter of a century ago the following account of the Society of Friends in Parke county was written after careful compilation and research, by Hon. Robert Kelly:

"The first meeting of the Friends in Parke county took place at the

residence of Adam Siler in 1825, and were kept up at that point from 1825 on for more than one year. Then the settlement at Bloomfield and Rocky Run began to assume shape; the place of meeting was changed to the house of Simon Rubottom, where they continued until the sixth month, 5th, 1826. At this date the first meeting house was erected and a preparative meeting established by the authority of the Honey Creek monthly meeting. Jeremiah Siler and Mary Kelly were the clerks of this preparative meeting, the records of which up to the twelfth month, 1st, 1827, were lost.

"Bloomfield meeting was established twelfth month, 1st, 1827, by an order of the Blue River quarterly meeting, dated Lick Creek, Orange county, tenth month, 27th, 1827. The committee having charge of its establishment were John Bray, J. Jones, James Rhodes, J. Hadley, and C. Hill. They appointed the first seventh day in each month for meeting. At this meeting M. Kelly, Payton Wilson, N. Newlin, S. Allen, and Isaiah Pemberton were appointed to have the meeting house grounds surveyed, and a grave-yard staked off, and M. Reynolds, John Newlin, and Isaiah Pemberton were appointed trustees of the house. At the monthly meeting held second month, 2nd, 1828, M. Kelly and J. Siler were appointed to receive and report accounts of sufferings to the meeting. The sufferings alluded to were such as originated from fines collected by law from members in indigent circumstances for non-conformity to the military laws of the state, which at that time, and for several years afterwards, required every able bodied man between the ages of eighteen and forty-five to muster at stated periods, or on the call of the proper offices, failure to respond being punished by fine. Friends, to be consistent with their well-known peace proclivities, refused to pay, or directly or indirectly to give up property, hence they were made more or less annoyance, and sometimes distressed, by the loss of indispensable articles which poorer members could not of themselves replace. This being brought to the notice of the yearly meeting, it, true to its principles, came to the relief of the distressed, and itself bore the burdens; and the more successfully to accomplish this it required each monthly meeting to appoint a committee to take cognizance of all cases of distress within their respective limits, and report, when they were forwarded to the meeting for sufferings, which furnished the proper relief.

"Another source of trouble which the early Friends had to contend was with the difference of opinion on a doctrinal phase denominated Hicksism, which resulted in a wide-spread and damaging separation under the leadership of Elias Hicks. On the peculiar doctrine set forth by this new sect, an

article by Prof. B. C. Hobbs, of Bloomingdale, is very explicit and reads as follows:

CAUSE OF THE HICKSITE SEPARATION.

"Sixty years ago the New Testament was common as a school book, but a complete copy of the Bible was not often found in the family of Friends. When read it was not expected to be explained, except by ministers, and as a consequence there was a great indefiniteness in the religious opinions of too many on doctrinal subjects.

"They accepted the opinions of those in whom they had confidence when they were positively asserted and capable and plausible men had great influence in society.

"The Society of Friends at this time was distinguished, as it ever has been, for benevolence, temperance and the social virtues. They were practical Christians. This lack of establishment in Christian faith rendered the hearts of too many a favorable soil for the seeds of heresy to take root and bring forth evil.

"About the years 1818 to 1825-8 Elias Hicks, a man who embraced in his character the appearance, language and manners of the straightest of his sect, and was most sympathetic and benevolent toward the poor, the afflicted and the oppressed, was known to advance sentiments which undervalued the mediatorial offices and atoning merits of Christ. He often spoke of Him as only a good man. That the Holy Spirit was in Him as it is in us; that His death and sufferings on Calvary were of no value to us, only as an example in a devoted life; that His blood was only a metaphor, meaning His life or the life of the Holy Spirit. He denied the existence of a devil or an evil agent apart from man's passions and taught that we are all by nature like Adam in the creation and fall. That the account in Genesis of the creation, the fall of our first parents and the Garden of Eden, were figurative and unreal; that we must be saved alone by the Holy Spirit in us; and that the Scriptures were not all inspired; such as were written by the inspiration of God are to be believed; such as were not, are of no more binding authority than other books; and that each must judge for himself.

"His plausible and winning manners and persuasive eloquence led many unsuspecting men and women astray. Many saw the error of his teaching from the beginning and gave timely warning. Some took one side and some the other. The controversy waxed earnest and culminated in a separation in 1828, in several yearly meetings in America, beginning in New York and ending in Indiana. Meetings, families and friends were divided. Wounds

were made, never to be healed. Some were led on in the separation by their love of a libertine faith, while others were influenced by the strong ties of friendship and social relations.

"There are some still living who can remember the work of the dark angel. Such recur to it with sad hearts.

"The effects of this separation were, however, not without some good. It stirred up the whole society to an earnest searching for the faith once delivered to the saints and from that day to this the Society of Friends have held a sound faith, in the doctrines of redemption by the blood of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.

"Although the date of the beginning of this trouble, in the United States, was some years prior to the settlement of Friends here, yet its first appearance in this part of Indiana was not until 1828. A paper was prepared that year by the Indiana yearly meeting, directed to each monthly meeting, on this subject, in which, among other things, the doctrine of Friends was clearly and fully set forth. The paper was read at Bloomfield monthly meeting third month, 1st, 1828, which endorsed it and took action confirming its acceptance by an order that it be spread upon the record, and by the appointment of a standing committee to look after certain spurious books and pamphlets purporting to contain the doctrine of Friends which were being circulated. It is a fact worthy of note that while almost every section of the country, from Canada to Virginia and from Vermont to Illinois, was convulsed with the elements of Hicksism, within the limits of Parke county proper there was scarcely a ripple. In the monthly meeting held the fifth month, 2nd, 1829, the representatives of the quarterly meeting produced three copies of Evans' Exposition and a Testament as a donation from Philadelphia yearly meeting, and other books having accumulated which were intended for the use of the members, a committee was appointed to establish a library and appoint a librarian, they recommending William Pickard for the position. Rules were afterward adopted for the government of the library and at various times valuable additions had been made to it, by purchase and donation, among others being a present of several important works and pamphlets from England and Philadelphia, consisting of a hundred and forty volumes and fifteen volumes purchased by the librarian, Philip Siler.

"The establishment of White Lick quarterly meeting was made on the third to seventh day in second month, 1831. White Lick, Fairfield, Bloomfield and Vermillion monthly meeting joining in the request.

"The first proposition for the establishment of the Western quarterly meeting came from the Sugar River monthly meeting third month, 5th, 1834.



A committee of the above mentioned and Bloomfield meetings was appointed and met at the latter place on 8th of fourth month, 1834, which agreed to ask for a meeting to be known as the Western quarterly meeting and that its assemblies take place on the second to seventh day, in the second, fifth, eight and eleventh months. The report was adopted by the yearly meeting which answered the request of the committee, by establishing it as required on the second to seventh day, of second month, 1836, nearly two years after the proposition was first made.

"The first meeting held in the quarterly meeting house, built by Reuben Holden, in 1834, was on the 8th day of sixth month, of that year, only one end of the building being completed. At this meeting, Exam Outland, Stephen Kersey, Jesse Hobson and Lot Lindley were appointed as the first representatives of the Western quarterly meeting."

Union church was instituted by the Society of Friends, but the meetings were entirely undenominational. A church thirty-five by forty feet was built in 1875, at a cost of one thousand dollars. On Christmas night the same was dedicated. Levi Woody was the first preacher in charge.

What was known as the Christian Union church, on the Rockville and Mecca road, two miles from the former place, had at one date a membership of eighty, but by removals and death the society went down. A neat chapel was erected, costing eight hundred dollars. Rev. William Halt was the first to preach there regularly, and following him came Revs. Myers, Jacob Wright, Boer and Nathan Wright.

#### UNIVERSALISTS.

This denomination has never flourished to any great extent in Parke county. In Sugar Creek township, in 1859, there was a society of this sect who built a church which was dedicated on Christmas night of that year, by Rev. T. C. Eaton. The building was thirty by forty feet in size and was erected on land owned by a Mr. Pickard. By 1880, the society had virtually gone down and the building was no longer used for church purposes. There have been several other attempts to maintain such churches, but all to no avail, the sentiment in favor of universal salvation not being strong enough in this locality.

## CHAPTER VIII.

### CIVIC SOCIETIES IN PARKE COUNTY.

Freemasonry was first introduced into Parke county in 1844 by a dispensation to organize Rockville Lodge of F. & A. M. on May 30th of that year. The first meeting was held June 25th, when the following brethren attended: Charles Grant, Jephtha Garrigus, Caleb Williams, Randolph H. Wedding, Vetal W. Coffin, Albert G. Coffin, David L. Hamilton, Henry Slaven and Joseph B. Cornelius. The officers installed were Peter Q. Stryker, worshipful master; John Briggs, senior warden; Seba S. Case, junior warden; Joseph B. Cornelius, secretary; Charles Grant, treasurer; Randolph H. Wedding, senior deacon, Albert G. Coffin, junior deacon; D. L. Hamilton, steward and tyler. Joseph C. Smith, Aaron Griffin and John R. Ten Brook were the first persons elected to take degrees in this order. The grand lodge of Indiana granted a charter May 29, 1845, and at this time the name of the lodge was changed to Parke Lodge, which it is still known as. In 1880 this lodge had a membership of forty-nine, and it has always been in a prosperous condition. The laying of the corner-stone of the new court house in the month of September, 1879, was under the auspices of this lodge and was a notable event in the history of the order, as well as of the county government. The ceremony took place in the presence of a fair-sized audience of citizens and the lodges from Terre Haute and Judson and delegations of the fraternity from Annapolis, Bellemore, Mansfield, Roseville, Harveysburg and other places, and was performed by Most Worshipful Grand Master Robert Van Valzah, assisted by a full corps of Masonic officials. At the conclusion of the ceremonies Dr. Harrison J. Rice, a member of Parke Lodge, delivered an historical address of great interest and highly befitting the occasion. In the casket deposited in the stone was placed a copy of the oration, and of the charter of the lodge, with many other articles which it is expected will be of curious interest to the citizens of Rockville and Parke county centuries to come, perhaps.

Parke Lodge now (1912) has a membership of one hundred twenty-three. It meets in the Masonic hall, owned by the fraternity, purchased in 1900, and which is large and complete in all of its appointments. The present

officers are: W. B. Collings, worshipful master; Jacob S. White, senior warden; George L. Laney, junior warden; William Hobson, senior deacon; Ollie Decker, junior deacon; M. W. Marshall, secretary; W. H. Hargrave, treasurer; tyler, W. J. Gaebler.

Parke Chapter No. 37, Royal Arch Masons, was secured by an application for dispensation July 11, 1856. At a convocation held on that day by Royal Arch Masons there were present Addison L. Roach, M. G. Wilkison, John T. Price, H. Alvord, P. Q. Stryker and L. A. Foote and an organization was made by appointing Roach to the chair and Foote as secretary. A committee appointed to procure a dispensation reported October 7th, in which it was made known that a dispensation had been obtained from William Hacker, most excellent high priest of Indiana. The meeting organized with William Hacker, grand high priest, presiding; S. F. Maxwell, king; P. Q. Stryker, scribe; ——— Sayer, captain of the host; L. A. Foote, principal sojourner; J. S. Dare, royal arch captain; H. Alvord, master of the third veil; John T. Price, master of the second veil; M. G. Wilkison, master of the first veil. A charter was issued by the officers of the grand chapter of Indiana, May 21, 1857. At that date the membership was twenty-one. The present membership is fifty-nine. This is the only chapter of Royal Arch Masons in Parke county.

Annapolis Lodge No. 127, Free and Accepted Masons, was chartered May 26, 1852, and in the year of Masonry 5852. The first officers and charter members were: John M. Wadding, worshipful master; Edward D. Laughlin, senior warden; James W. Tucker, junior warden; John D. Gifford, secretary; John S. Dare, Simon Vestal, John Kelly, L. B. Dunigan, C. N. Harding, David Best, William Sweeney, R. A. Coffin.

Bridgeton Lodge No. 169, Free and Accepted Masons, was organized in 1854. The petitioners for the dispensation were M. G. Wilkinson, Mahlon Wilkinson, R. C. Allen, N. B. Smook, John Briggs, Jr., James A. Cole and Jephtha Garrigus, all but the last named being members of Parke Lodge No. 8. The petition was granted with the title of Whitcomb Lodge. M. G. Wilkinson was the first master, and Mahlon Wilkinson and R. C. Allen were wardens. A charter was issued May 30, 1855, and the title of Bridgeton No. 169 was given. The meetings were held in the second story of R. C. Allen's wagon shop for eight years, when, in 1863, the limited room and increased membership made it necessary to provide other quarters, and the lodge was removed to the upper story of Dr. Crook's drug store. In 1868 the store and contents were burned, including the lodge room, library and other valua-

bles. The Crook store was rebuilt and a lodge room built especially was added to the structure. The lodge then flourished as never before.

At Waterman, in the extreme northwest part of Parke county, Lodiville Lodge No. 172, Free and Accepted Masons, was chartered in May, 1855, the first officers and charter members being: J. M. T. Bright, worshipful master; N. Thomas, senior warden; A. R. Hood, junior warden; Samuel Richmond, secretary; Isaac Carman, Andrew Baker, D. G. Ephlin.

Montezuma Lodge No. 89, Free and Accepted Masons, was chartered May 28, 1861, its first officers and charter members being: R. M. Gilkinson, worshipful master; Firman Allen, senior warden; Jacob Myers, junior warden; George Kretz, treasurer; Thomas Griffith, secretary; David Phillips, senior deacon; William McIntosh, junior deacon.

In the autumn of 1912 the officers of this lodge were: R. W. Johnson, worshipful master; C. S. Overman, senior warden; R. W. Sutton, junior warden; T. A. Welshnans, treasurer; W. P. Montgomery, secretary; Samuel J. Holmes, Frank Arn and T. A. Welshnans, trustees. The membership is now seventy-four, and the hall is valued at three thousand dollars; it was erected in 1902.

Catlin Lodge No. 402, Free and Accepted Masons, was chartered May 25, 1869, with a membership of sixteen. The charter members were: S. T. Catlin, Thomas Harshman, Marshall Gray, A. S. Alden, Thomas Akers, John Pence, Asal Riggs, John Lollis, S. R. Beal, Price Hawkins, Ira Jones, John Thomas, Harvey Gray, Uriah E. Thomas, J. W. Puett and Dr. George M. Knight. The lodge met for many years in the Ray hall.

In Union township the first fraternal society formed was that of the Masonic order. An informal meeting was held at the store of James Brackenridge, November 7, 1874, for the purpose of considering the expediency of organizing a Masonic lodge, and on December 26, 1874, thirteen members met for this object. J. M. Jerome was elected worshipful master; A. B. Collings, senior warden; James Brackenridge, junior warden; W. P. Blake, treasurer; J. D. Wright, secretary; W. Jerome, senior deacon; P. L. Reid, junior deacon; Albert Beach, tyler.

Lena Lodge was organized September 29, 1874, in Murph's hall, in the town of Lena, Jackson township, with a membership of eight. The officers elected were: Wellington Peach, worshipful master; James Smook, senior warden; Levi Woodrum, junior warden; John A. Welch, secretary; Jacob Plummer, treasurer; M. R. Plummer, senior deacon; Mathew G. Quin, junior deacon; Jesse Williams, tyler. A charter was granted May 22, 1877, in the



meantime the lodge working under dispensation. Up to 1880 no death had occurred within the circle of the membership.

#### PRESENT MASONIC LODGES IN THE COUNTY.

In 1912 the following Masonic lodges existed within Parke county: Parke Lodge No. 8, with one hundred and twenty-three members; Montezuma No. 89, with seventy-four members; Annapolis No. 127, with sixty-four members; Bridgeton No. 169, with one hundred and twenty-three members; Lodiville (Silverwood) No. 172, with forty-six members; Rosedale No. 259, with eighty-two members; Catlin No. 402, with fifty-eight members; Judson No. 518, with fifty members; Sylvania No. 559, with sixty members.

#### ODD FELLOWSHIP.

The oldest Odd Fellows lodge in Parke county is the one instituted at Rockville, November 9, 1849, known as Howard Lodge No. 71, by Taylor W. Webster, district deputy grand master, of Ladoga, assisted by Joshua Ridge, Samuel Noel, William Kromer, Samuel Stover, James Houston and William Detrick. It was named in honor of John Howard, the eminent philanthropist of England. The charter members were F. W. Dinwiddie, Joseph Phillips, Charles W. Stryker, Samuel A. Fisher and William McClure. The charter bears the date of January 10, 1850, and among other eminent names affixed to it was that of Hon. Schuyler Colfax, a past grand in the order. This lodge was organized in the Masonic hall at the court house. The first real Odd Fellows hall was a two-story building, which stood many years and was finally used as a blacksmith shop. The lodge started out with six working members, and struggled with but few additions for a few years, when it took a start and grew rapidly until the war between the states broke out, when many of the members enlisted in the Union cause. At the close of that deadly struggle the lodge again took on new life and prospered. After 1876 the lodge built a three-story building on the north side of the public square, at a cost of five thousand dollars, and on the third floor of which structure was built their lodge room, a spacious, well-furnished hall.

Rockville Encampment No. 95, Patriarchs Militant, was instituted November 9, 1849. Its charter bears the names of W. C. Lumpton, grand patriarch, and E. H. Barry, grand scribe. The twenty-fifth anniversary of the chartering of this lodge was commemorated by a grand banquet, November 9, 1874. Over nine hundred were furnished a sumptuous dinner, gotten up

by the ladies of the old National Hall. Hon. Schuyler Colfax delivered the address in an able and truly eloquent manner.

Reserve Lodge No. 102, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, was instituted November 10, 1851, at Montezuma, the charter members being Samuel A. Fisher, John W. Wade, James Jacobs, George H. Ribble, Samuel D. Hill and George W. Thompson.

Annapolis Lodge No. 431 was chartered, or rather organized, January 7, 1874, with the following as charter members and first officers: J. D. Connelly, noble grand; R. W. H. McKey, vice-grand; Wyatt Morgan, treasurer; John J. Garrigus, secretary; Miles Ratcliffe, warden; William and Samuel Brooks.

Parke Lodge No. 498 was instituted August 26, 1874, by John T. Sanders, of Indianapolis. The charter bears the date of November 18, 1875. The first officers and members were: John J. Garrigus, noble grand; R. H. W. McKey, vice-grand; W. R. Cooper, secretary; Wyatt Morgan, treasurer; John P. Lungren, Miles Ratcliffe, Samuel Brooks and William Brooks. It was written of this lodge in 1880: "It is one of the brightest lodges in the county, the spirit of friendship obtaining universally among the membership."

Union Lodge No. 198, Daughters of Rebekah, also met within the lodge room of the last named lodge and in 1879 was the only lodge of its kind in Parke county. It was formed in August, 1879, by the following members: Dr. McKey, W. R. Cooper, Jennie Cooper, W. P. Floyd, Elizabeth Floyd, Thomas Clark, Anjennetta Clark, Miles Ratcliffe, E. J. Ratcliffe, S. Harlan, Mary Harlan, J. C. Hershbrunner, L. W. Banton and Angelina Banton.

#### PRESENT ODD FELLOWS LODGES.

The following is a list of the Odd Fellows lodges within Parke county in existence in 1912:

Reserve Lodge No. 102, Montezuma, has a membership of seventy-six, and owns a fine hall, erected in 1900 at a cost of six thousand dollars, which is all paid for. The present officers are: Charles Machletd, noble grand; Perry Jarrod, vice-grand; John G. Lowry, secretary; Roy Aikman, treasurer; John Machletd, Oliver Whitson and William Whitson, trustees.

Howard Lodge No. 71, Rockville, two hundred and seventy-six members.

Bloomington Lodge No. 431 has fifty-five members.

Parke Lodge No. 498 has twenty members.

Tangier Lodge No. 632 has seventeen members.

Rosedale Lodge No. 698 has one hundred and thirty-eight members.

Prosperity Lodge has one hundred and eleven members.

Mecca Lodge No. 755 has one hundred and three members.

Bridgeton Lodge No. 815 has forty-two members.

This makes a grand total in the county of nine hundred and seventeen.

#### REBEKAH DEGREE LODGES.

At Marshall, Union Lodge has seven members.

At Bloomingdale, Pearl Lodge No. 226 has thirty-five members.

At Rockville, Shining Light Lodge has one hundred and eighty-four.

At Rosedale, Mary Lodge No. 431 has one hundred and two.

At Montezuma, Wabash Lodge No. 498 has seventy-two.

At Bridgeton, Mayview Lodge No. 689 has seventy-five.

This makes a grand total in the county of four hundred and seventy-five.

The only encampments of the fraternity in Parke county are those at Rockville and Rosedale, both flourishing in the autumn of 1912.

#### KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS.

This, one of the more modern civic societies, has a good following in Parke county. The first lodge of this order, Silliman Lodge No. 66, was instituted September 8, 1875, by District Deputy Grand Chancellor Albert Dickey, of Crawfordsville, assisted by the members of DeBayard Lodge No. 39, of the same place. The charter was granted January 25, 1876, by C. T. Tuly, grand chancellor of the grand lodge of Indiana, and the charter members were as follows: William R. Fry, M. J. Cochran, William P. Strain, Z. Byers, W. N. McCampbell, O. J. Innis, T. H. Holmes, J. Wise, J. S. Hunnell, William H. Gillum, George B. Chapman, J. B. Connelly, J. E. Woodard, J. D. Carlisle, William Rembolz, R. Christian, Charles H. Bigwood, David A. Roach, E. A. Matson, S. C. Puett, William D. Sill, F. M. Hall, S. D. Puett, A. J. East and John B. Dowd. In 1880 this lodge had a membership of one hundred and seven, and was reported in an excellent condition, financially and fraternally. Meetings were held every Wednesday night in Castle Hall, in the third floor of Shackleford's block, on the north side of the square at Rockville. Now the hall is in the Whipple block; number of members, one hundred and seventy.

## PRESENT LODGES OF THE ORDER.

In 1912 the following points sustained Knights of Pythias lodges: Rockville, Silliman Lodge No. 66, with one hundred and seventy members; Rose-dale Lodge No. 224, with one hundred and eighteen members; Mecca Lodge No. 488, with one hundred and four members; Montezuma Lodge No. 264, with eighty-seven members; Tangier, Philemon Lodge No. 399, with forty-seven members; Bloomingdale, Penn Lodge No. 87, with thirty-six members; Marshall Lodge No. 133, with twenty-eight members; Bellemore Lodge No. 649, with sixty-one members; Acme Lodge No. 98, at Silverwood, with membership of fifty-three; Bridgeton Lodge No. 435, with a membership of one hundred and forty-eight; Caseyville Lodge No. 465, at Diamond, with a membership of ninety-two.

The Rockville lodge is the mother of all the others in Parke county. Its officers, according to the last obtainable report, that of the grand lodge of 1912, gives the officers as follows: C. E. Burnett, chancellor commander; Frank Shaw, vice-commander; Fred Burnett, prelate; Early M. Dowd, keeper of records and seal; John H. Spencer, master of finance; A. T. Brockway, master of exchequer; Sherman Call, inner guard; S. J. Skelton, outer guard.

At Montezuma, Lodge No. 264 was organized June 2, 1891, and now has a membership of eighty. The present elective members are: J. L. White, chancellor commander; A. Scribbling, vice-commander; William Skeeter, prelate; William Burgess, master of wampum; A. L. Jerome, keeper of records and seal; John G. Lowry, master of exchequer; John C. Hamilton, master of finance; John Morgan, master of arms; William Norris, outer guard; A. M. Kay, inner guard; Frank Wilson, N. S. Wheeler, John L. White, trustees. The order owns a hall valued at two thousand five hundred dollars. A few of this lodge belong to the Uniform Rank degree.

## GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.

The Grand Army of the Republic, the great Civil war and Union soldier fraternity, was early in the field in Parke county, and at one time there were numerous posts organized in the county, but with the death of so many of the loyal "boys in blue," of late years, many posts have been compelled to surrender their charter. There are still a few posts in this county, including the first organized, that at Rockville, and a few more. The total membership is now quite small. The sight of the once numerous copper buttons and



post badges of the country is year by year growing sadly less, and ere long one will look upon these badges of honor as our grandfathers used to the relics of the old Revolutionary soldiers.

The names and numbers of the posts in this county in the fall of 1912 were as follows, with the names of the commanders: Steele Post No. 9, Rockville, with fifty membership; D. H. Strange, commander. Floyd Post No. 10, at Annapolis; J. R. Tucker, commander. Scott Post No. 305, at Portland Mills; Irvin Thomas, commander. Hobson Post No. 29, at Marshall; Stephen Beeson, commander. Altoona Post No. 407, at Waterman; George W. Knaver, commander. Kelly Post No. 572, Bridgeton; J. H. Kerr, commander.

## CHAPTER IX.

### THE NEWSPAPERS OF PARKE COUNTY.

The art and profession of newspaper-making first got a foothold in Parke county in 1829, as appears from the earliest files of which the author has any access or knowledge. This was in the establishment of the *Wabash Herald*, started in 1829. It was in the early months of 1828, when this county had a population of less than two hundred souls, that its populace began to agitate the question of securing a local paper, having become tired of depending upon those printed at Terre Haute. So by the circulation of a subscription paper the *Herald* was founded, and its editor was a Mr. Clarke, from Ohio. It was a mild-tempered Jackson political organ, but paid more attention to local news than to shaping political opinion. John Marts purchased the office soon after, and he entered into a "starvation career." That was a day of red-hot campaigns and no neutral paper had any showing in the minds of the determined and positive first settlers in these parts. Marts sold to William T. Noel, who at once changed the name to that of the *Rockville Intelligencer* and converted it into a radical Whig organ. Noel set out to build up the Whig party in Parke county and really did accomplish much in this direction. Later he sold to Comingore, who was followed by Mr. Snyder, and in turn he was succeeded by Col. Henry Slavens, who changed its name to the *Olive Branch*, which, however, was anything but a peaceful organ, but on the contrary, was always in "deep mud and hot water." This caused the few issues of a paper known as the *Whig Rifle*, but the original paper was counted the real party organ of the Whigs for many years. It finally became so personal that the Democratic leaders started a paper to further their end in the county. It only ran for a short time and the oldest present inhabitant knows not its name or date of its publication, simply the tradition handed down that such a paper once existed here, for no copies can be found to tell the birth and death of the paper.

It was not far from 1842 when Matthew Simpson bought the Whig paper, the *Olive Branch*, and conducted the same many years, after a very creditable fashion for those early days, when all matter had to be set up by hand and when pure rag paper obtained, instead of the rotten, almost

worthless, present-day print paper. The paper was run off on a hand-press and its circulation was none the largest, but the price was from two to three dollars per annum, cash in advance (sometimes), and when not so paid the rate was much higher, and the rule generally lived up to. Then there were no "patent insides," or cheap plates, with love story attachments, to the publication, sent by express at so much per inch or pound. Editorials were then all original, no borrowed type or plates. Even the "patent medicine" notices all had to be set up at home, yet they told of as many cure-alls as those of today, and cured as many (?) then as now. One specialty was the full-text of long-winded speeches made in Congress, covering page upon page of fine type, and often continued to other issues of the paper. Also the long editorials explaining the position taken by the Congressmen, etc. The foreign news had to come by sailing vessel and steamer for years, until, in the fifties, when the submarine cable brought European news, which, after its long route from New York and Philadelphia, finally found its way here by stage or canal boat, when it was headed "Latest News from Europe." Then, as even now, there were baskets full of poetry set up annually, that was simply abominable. Finally, the name of the paper was changed to that of the *Parke County Whig*, and so continued until 1854, when the son, Rufus Simpson, took control and named it the *True Republican*, which with the flight of years became the *Rockville Republican*. In 1880 this was published by Keeny & Brown, which in reality is the legal offspring and descendant of the original Whig organ of this county.

In the meantime, the Democrats had several times tried to sustain a newspaper, for political reasons, but had failed until in 1856, when E. Cox established the *Democrat*, which was short lived. Again in 1864, a traveling printer started another *Democrat*, but neither stood fire long enough to be counted in the chapter of journalism here. After many years, the *Montezuma Era* became the leading Democratic organ of Parke county, and flourished quite well; it was still conducted in 1881 and was noted for being a good family newspaper with Democratic politics.

Shortly after the close of the Civil war, Dr. John S. Dare, who gained some celebrity as a prose and verse writer, and who was from North Carolina, established the *Parke County News*, an independent paper, leaning toward the Greenback doctrine. It did not pay and was sold to George W. Collings, who called his paper the *Patriot*, a Democratic organ. He sold to J. B. Cheadle, who founded the *Rockville Tribune*, an independent Republican paper, which, in March, 1879, passed into the hands of J. H. Beadle, who

conducted the same until he sold an interest to Isaac Strouse, who in a year or so purchased the remainder of the property, and has continued its publication for more than thirty years, making it a stanch Democratic organ.

The *Parke County Signal* files show that it was established August 14, 1880, at Rockville, and run for a number of years, when it was merged with other publications and quit as a separate paper. It was radically Democratic, and had scathing editorials, in which the Republican party was frequently "roasted" and which caused many heated newspaper discussions and animated retorts, between the editors of the various party organs.

There have been many other papers published in the county at an early day, but none of great prominence, down to a quarter of a century ago.

#### PRESENT NEWSPAPERS.

In 1912 the newspapers of the county are as follows:

The *Tribune*, at Rockville, published by Isaac Strouse, who has been connected with the paper for thirty-odd years, and is now one of the leading Democratic organs in this section of Indiana.

The *Republican*, at Rockville, is published and owned by A. A. Hargrave, who has conducted a clean, newsy, and straight Republican organ here since April 4, 1888, when he purchased it from the company represented by Brown Brothers. This paper is the continuation of the early-day *Parke County Whig*, and later the *True Republican*. Earlier still its predecessor was the *Olive Branch*, published first in about 1842, by Matthew Simpson, but it had been launched by the Whig element with William T. Noel as editor, who called the paper the *Rockville Intelligencer*. In taking the *Republican*, in April, 1888, Mr. Hargrave made this brief, modest announcement, and he has, during all these years, lived up to what he there stated:

"In assuming the control of the *Republican* two objects are in view, one to make a living out of the business part of the establishment, the other to give the people, and especially the Republicans of Parke county, a first-class Republican newspaper. For these two objects I will work with might and main. The hearty co-operation of all is solicited. Without this confidence and help of my readers and patrons this paper must fail. But after all, the paper must show for itself. It is hoped no old friend of the paper will be lost and that many new ones will be gained.

"Respectfully,

"ARTHUR A. HARGRAVE."



The *Montezuma Enterprise*, now owned and conducted by C. S. Overman, who has recently located there, is an independent newspaper, calculated to upbuild the vicinity in which it circulates, on both sides of the Wabash, in both Vermillion and Parke counties, especially the latter. It succeeds the old *Record*, published by A. B. Powell. The present rate of subscription is one dollar and twenty-five cents and the *Enterprise* is filled with choice, crisp locals, and also carries a paying list of home advertisements, showing the patrons appreciate the manner in which the paper is being conducted by Mr. Overman.

The *Bloomington World* was established in 1880 by W. H. Bright, and is now a six-column quarto, subscription rate one dollar and twenty-five cents per year. This newspaper has always given more in return for what has been paid in subscription and other patronage to the office than most papers have done, being always clean, newsy and progressive.

The town of Rosedale has had numerous newspapers, some of long and some of shorter duration. In searching out the list the writer finds the *Clipper* from 1896 to 1898; the *Southern Parke Press*, that printed its last issue September 28, 1888, C. E. Hardick, editor and publisher; Wentworth & Wentworth published the *Rosedale Tribune* from 1902 on for almost four years. The present *Tribune* is edited and owned by H. Clay Owen; its size is an eight-page six-column paper, and is progressive in politics.

The *News* is a publication at Marshall.

## CHAPTER X.

### IMPORTANT CRIMINAL CASES.

While the recital of crimes long ago committed may not appeal to every reader as befitting a work of the historic kind presented in this volume, yet there were certain crimes—especially before the Civil war—that tend to throw light on the class of people in these parts and really are narratives of no little interest to possibly a respectable majority of the readers, hence will here be inserted.

At least three of these crimes were committed in Liberty township. At an early day William Slocum, while hunting in the woods, came upon a wild cat dragging something from a brush heap. He killed the cat and found in its claws a dead infant, apparently of recent birth. A girl named Smith, living near by, was suspected; but when an inquiry was begun she arose from the bed, dressed in man's clothes, walked to the Wabash, hailed a passing steamer and departed, and that was the last Liberty township ever heard of the unwedded mother.

Luke Mead, of Liberty township, was an elderly man, with a young wife of whom he was passionately jealous. He was also talkative and quarrelsome when in liquor. His jealousy was directed chiefly toward Lewis Thomas, and one day the two had a violent quarrel in the town of Lodi, now Waterman. Soon after they started home by different routes, and Mead was never again seen alive, a few days afterward being found in the beech woods dead. His body was greatly swollen; by his side lay a broken whisky bottle, and under his thigh a dead rattle snake! On his person were scratches which the witnesses thought could not have been made by the snake, and on his throat dark marks which might have been made by the fingers of a very strong man. Lewis Thomas attended the inquest with other neighbors, and was there arrested and taken before a justice. While the latter hesitated whether the proof was sufficient to commit, Gen. T. A. Howard passed down the road, returning from court at Covington, and Thomas at once employed him as counsel. He pressed the trial and evidence was judged insufficient to hold. No further action was taken, but the community held the accused guilty and withdrew all fellowship from him. His residence then became intolerable,

and he went to California in 1849, where he died in 1850, in apparent peace and without any reference to the tragedy. If guilty, his case did not turn out in accordance with the popular notion in such cases.

Another remarkable disproof of the popular idea "that murder will out" is found in the case of Washington Hoagland. In 1855 he was residing with his brother Rowan in an old farm house, set far back from the road, a gloomy looking place, seemingly fitted by nature as the locality of mysterious crime. Two lewd girls had made the house their home for a few days, with a consent of Rowan Hoagland, and Washington had raised a disturbance about it. One night he was called into the yard, a scuffle occurred and next morning he was found there dead, in his hand a pistol, and on his throat the marks of strangulation. When he was lifted from the ground the pistol fell from his hand, which the people thought a proof that he did not die holding it. He was a strangely quiet man, almost simple-minded, and without an enemy. Strict examination of the brother and the girls developed no proof, though the latter were generally believed to have guilty knowledge of the murder. No one was arrested, proof being lacking, and the suspected soon after took final leave of the county. The experience of this township tends to prove that murder escapes detection as often, in proportion, as any other crime.

Far more sensational and sorrowful was the case of Noah Beauchamp, the only man hanged in Parke county. Beauchamp was a man somewhat past middle life, a blacksmith of heavy person, ruddy complexion and strong passions. His temperament was impulsive, and he was, one might say, unreasonably jealous of the honor of his family. He was a consistent member of the Baptist church, thoroughly honest in his dealings and enjoyed the general respect of his neighbors. His neighbor, George Mickelberry, was a man who also enjoyed the respect of all and no difficulty ever occurred between the men, until the women quarreled. Delia Decker, a young woman living at Mickelberry's, had employed one of Beauchamp's daughters to do some work, and charged that Mrs. Beauchamp had stolen, or rather failed to return, a quantity of wool entrusted to her for the work. Of course this soon grew to a neighborhood scandal and, coming to Beauchamp's ears, inflamed him to a high degree of anger. He declared he would go immediately and have "the Mickelberry family take it back." On his way he passed where they had been cutting up meat and picked up a butcher-knife which lay on a stump. He said he did this thinking there might be two or three men at Mickelberry's and that he would be overpowered if attacked. He also told a friend—but does not state the fact in his confession—that he knelt and prayed before reaching Mickelberry's for guidance; nevertheless, he did go there

angry and with his knife concealed. Almost choking with anger, he addressed some violent language to Delia Decker, when Mrs. Mickelberry arose and left the room. Mickelberry expostulated with him mildly, but Miss Decker answered by reiterating the charge that his daughter had stolen the wool. White with passion he said: "If you was a man I'd cut you into shoe-strings." Thereupon Mickelberry laid his hand on Beauchamp and said: "You shall not talk that way in my house." And on the instant Beauchamp drew the knife and with one fearful blow buried it to the hilt in the other's breast. Mrs. Mickelberry testified that she heard the bone snap from the adjoining room. Mickelberry fell dead without a word or cry.

For one instant the homicide stood as if paralyzed. Then he dropped the fatal knife and fled. Reaching the river, he stole a canoe and crossed, then made his way by the most direct route to Texas, then the uncommon refuge for the unfortunate and the criminal. There he worked at his trade and went by his true name, possibly thinking himself perfectly safe. But a large reward was offered, his description being published far and wide, and two adventurers in Texas arrested the fugitive. It was not easy, at that day, to get a man of that sort out of Texas, as the state had need of every strong arm, against its many enemies, and the more desperate he was the more she needed him. On his way back Beauchamp made one dash for liberty, knocked down one of the men and nearly overcame the other, but was overpowered. On the steamer he hanged himself with the sheet from his bed, and was almost dead when discovered and cut down. The crime was committed in the northern part of Vigo county, but Beauchamp employed Gen. T. A. Howard as counsel, who took a change of venue to Parke, where the proceedings, including the appeal to the supreme court, lasted over a year. Howard threw all his energies into this case, and felt for his client more than a common interest; but it was in vain. He was sentenced to death and the supreme court confirmed the sentence. No trial held in Wabash valley ever excited more interest, and the conduct of Mrs. Mickelberry, in particular, on the witness stand excited the deep respect of all, and even affected some to tears. When Ned McGaughey, who prosecuted, asked: "Can you point out the murderer of your husband?" the tears gathered in her eyes, as she softly replied: "It was the old gentleman who sits there." No part of the examination drew from her a single angry remark about Beauchamp, to whom she invariably alluded, as "the old gentleman." General Howard never ceased his efforts to save Beauchamp's life, till he had laid a petition for commutation before the governor, and been sadly refused.

On a dark, gloomy Sunday, George Howard, Joseph Ralston, Henry



Slavens and Ludwell Robinson together went to the jail. Then Howard, with tears in his eyes, said to Beauchamp: "I have done all I could, but there is no hope; nothing remains for you but to prepare for death." Beauchamp replied that he was ready to die, thanked Howard warmly and requested to have Rev. Newport preach his funeral before the execution; then ate a light breakfast and made his last wishes on various matters, known to Henry Slavens (then editor and lawyer), who also wrote out his so-called confession. Friday, February 8, 1843, was a bitter cold day, but a large crowd assembled. Beauchamp sat in the old court house, dressed for death, and listened to his own funeral sermon. Then the sad procession repaired to a hollow half a mile east of town, where the gallows had been erected. He said no more to the crowd than a mere good bye. Sheriff Youmans was so agitated that his first blow missed the rope. The next severed it, and just as the condemned murmured, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit," the drop fell and, without unusual struggle, he passed to eternity.

It is foreign to this work, but only a few years before his cousin Beauchamp, of Kentucky, had died the same death, and for a crime likewise committed in defense of family honor. His wife had been seduced before marriage by one Sharpe, who later became attorney-general. The wrong was talked over by the young people, and finally Beauchamp became so frenzied that he called Sharpe out one night and killed him. The wife of the murderer clung to him to the last with most affecting devotion. As the fatal day drew near, both seemed exalted above the ordinary feelings of mankind. They prayed aloud, they sang till the jail walls echoed their fervor, and exulted that he was to die for no mercenary crime, but in defense of chastity and family honor. She rode with him to the scaffold, sustained his courage in the last trying moments and had inscribed on his tomb her endorsement of what she considered his chivalrous act. Thus died the two Beauchamps, men of high spirit and noble, but untrained, instincts. Men of strict honesty in life, but victims of illy-regulated passions. Theirs were no vulgar crimes, and it is impossible for the generous mind not to feel a sympathy with such men, even while inexorable law condemns.

Another peculiar case will be narrated in this connection: In Numa there had lived from a very early day one Silas Bowers, who was a business man, but always in some local trouble and had many suits at law. He had come to be an experienced rogue. In 1854 this man whose name was Bowers lost a suit at law by the testimony of one Sidwell, and in a few nights afterward Sidwell's barn burned, with his crop and tools within it. The honest citizens rose en masse, seized Bowers and a few of his gang, whipped

him and a hired witness, named Burke, till they confessed to the arson, then notified them to leave on pain of death. Burke immediately complied, after detailing that Bowers employed him to burn the barn, and he in turn employed one Reeder, who really applied the torch. Reeder was chased into a swamp in Vigo county and there mysteriously disappeared, never to be seen in this section of the country. Bowers went to Terre Haute, and actually had the audacity to return, backed by a new gang. The society here known as the Regulators now saw that it was a life and death contest, as Bowers had not only employed attorneys and brought suits, but had a gang of supposed assassins to aid him. The citizens again captured him by stratagem, and whipped him so unmercifully that his back was a mass of raw and bleeding flesh. Then, it is reported, they tied him to a tree, placed a gun in Sidwell's hands and directed him to shoot Bowers, which Sidwell offered to do if enough of them would join to make it uncertain who fired the fatal shot.

The country was now terribly excited. The first move of the Regulators had been generally approved; indeed, they numbered some of the best men in the county. But some shrank from extreme measures; two parties formed, and Bowers had a few sympathizers. He left, but again returned, this time only asking permission to settle up his business and then leave the country. This the Regulators readily granted. But the mob spirit was now aroused, and good citizens who had started with it could no longer control it. Other men were now "regulated" for mere offenses against morality, and one, Ben Wheat, was fearfully lashed for no offenses at all that anyone can recall now. Meanwhile Silas Bowers had finished his settlement, placed his remaining property in the hands of a trustee and, with his wife, had started for Illinois in a carriage. He had most unwisely threatened vengeance just before leaving, and it was whispered about that his death was determined. A few miles west of the Wabash he was fired upon with unerring aim by two men concealed ahead of him by the roadside, and fell from his carriage mortally wounded, his life blood spattering the dress of his wife by his side. The manner of his assassination was never successfully searched out, and it is well perhaps not to inquire too closely or curiously, even at this late date, as to just who had a hand in this affair—let the cloak of charity fall and there forever remain.

In 1856 occurred another murder, which may here be of some interest. In the school of Couse and Condit were two lads of fifteen and eighteen summers, Oscar P. Lill and Charles H. Thompson. They got into difficulty, one with the other, over some small affair in a literary society, which resulted in Thompson stabbing and killing his classmate. Thompson fled to Mississippi,

but was pursued and brought back the next summer. The trial was a long delayed one, and celebrated counsel was procured on both sides, including Hon. Dan Voorhees as prosecutor and Hon. R. W. Thompson, later secretary of the navy, for the defense. The murderer was finally sentenced for one year and the governor pardoned him out in a few months, when he went to Iowa, served honorably in the Union army, settled in New Orleans, where he was city appraiser under the reconstruction government, and after the revolution there in 1877 returned to Iowa. It was an unfortunate affair and the man Thompson, who did the criminal deed in his youthful passion, always carried with him the deep, sad regrets of having taken the life of a fellowman.

Including the killing of Nillis Hart, at Montezuma, in the autumn of 1856, Parke county had eight homicides up to 1881, of which three were directly due to whisky and two to lust.

The last murder in this county was the killing of Mrs. Lottie Vollmer by J. C. Henning, at Rockville, in the nineties. The murderer was tried and hung at Crawfordsville, Montgomery county.

#### THE WORK OF INSANITY.

In the month of April, 1896, the entire county was saddened by the work of an insane man named Alfred Egbert, of Rockville, who killed a Mrs. Herman Haschke, an innocent woman in the part of town in which the insane man lived; and in meeting the sheriff, Col. W. D. Mull, his trusty deputy, William Sweem, Agnes, a daughter of the murdered woman, aged nine years, and her brother, Herman, aged seven years. The work was all done with a shot gun, with which he killed himself while secreted in one of the stock stalls at the county fair grounds, thus ending one of the most terrible tragedies ever darkening the pages of Parke county history. The funeral of Colonel Mull was attended by persons from all over the county; the court house was heavily draped in mourning and sorrow was felt, keen and deep, everywhere. The old soldiers and Grand Army had charge of his burial, Rev. F. K. Fuson, of the Presbyterian church, preached his funeral sermon. This truly good man and county official, Colonel Mull, was born in Ohio, came here in 1840, enlisted in Company A, Fourteenth Indiana Regiment, served later as colonel of the One Hundred and Forty-ninth Regiment. He studied medicine at Jefferson Medical College and practiced medicine at Terre Haute till 1877.

The deputy sheriff, also killed, was raised in Parke county, as a car-

penter, and was a good man and inoffensive citizen, carrying out the duties of his office when shot down by this unfortunate mad man.

The murderer, if such he might be termed, was born in Rockville in 1874. was by trade a carpenter and worked on the house of Dr. Mull, among his last jobs. Thus six human lives went out in as many hours, on Rockville soil.



## CHAPTER XI.

### POLITICAL HISTORY AND ELECTION RETURNS.

Perhaps no more accurate account of the early political complexion of Parke county can here be given than that expressed in a former history of the county by that fair-minded citizen, J. H. Beadle, from whose writings we here draw liberally. Among other points he makes clear of the following facts, put into other language, in part.

Concerning the clerk's office in Parke county, it may be said that for numerous reasons there has been connected with it much of political and other interesting history. This office was held for thirty years, almost a generation, by two men, while that of the sheriff was frequently held more than five years at once by the same individual. Very few, if indeed any, counties in the commonwealth have been so fortunate in their county officials. For fifty-nine years, says Mr. Beadle, down to the date of his writing, there was an unbroken line of county treasurers without a single defalcation.

Again, take the map of the Hoosier state, as it was in 1840, and the Whig strongholds then are generally strongly Republican now. And what is true of Indiana is also true of the country at large. The Friends (Quakers) were nearly all Whigs, and nearly every member of that honorable society became radical Republicans. Reserve township, for example, was Democratic on the issues of tariff, bank and distribution; it remained Democratic when those issues were as dead as Julius Caesar, and was still Democratic in Garfield's time as President, but on an entirely new set of political issues, which have no connection with the issues of 1840. Yet men are sometimes blamed for changing their party, though political parties are ever changing themselves. "Why men who held together on finance and revenue issues should be expected to hold together on negro suffrage and reconstruction, is one of those things no logician can solve."

Along about 1832-3 there seems to have been a general epidemic among the county officials, as to being elected and after a time handing in their resignations. From records it appears that many men who in 1828 had been Jackson men, in 1832 were anti-Jackson men. John G. Davis, who was elected on his popularity for sheriff in 1831, resigned in 1833. At the same

time Coroner Johnston resigned, and Nugent was appointed in his stead; but he, too, resigned in March, 1835, and Hugh J. Bradley was commissioned in his place. It was almost impossible to find a man in those days who would hold the office of coroner or probate judge. Meanwhile the county offices and nearly all of the records of the county were consumed by fire; the Legislature was appealed to and corrected the difficulty, as far as possible, by an act to validate titles and records, but an immense amount of trouble devolved on the officials, and of course the people got impatient and decided to "have a change," as they have in politics many times since then—sometimes for the better and again for a far worse administration.

In 1823 Nathaniel Huntington and Thomas H. Blake ran for the Legislature, to represent Parke county with Vigo, and the vote stood: Parke—Huntington, 79; Blake, 245. Vigo—Huntington, 138; Blake, 310. In 1824, Jacob Call, Thomas H. Blake and Ratliffe Boone ran for Congress; and in 1826 the last two and Lawrence S. Shuler, of Terre Haute. But Boone was by this time too strong for anybody to successfully cope with him. His district extended from the Ohio to Lake Michigan, and he faithfully canvassed it every campaign. Lawrence S. Shuler was the most eminent surgeon in this part of Indiana, and frequently went a hundred miles to perform some delicate operation. He died not long after he was a candidate, universally lamented. Boone's next competitor was John Law, who brought into the canvass of his district great energy. He and Governor James B. Ray made a thorough canvass of the district in 1828, holding forth at every settlement, and people came as far as thirty miles in canoes and on horseback to hear them speak. One night they were swamped in the Wea plains, but found a house at ten next morning, got breakfast and fresh horses, and galloped on to their next appointment. Boone continued to represent this district as long as he cared to (Parke, however, was soon cut off in a more northern district), then went to Missouri, and, after all, died in comparative obscurity. There is much talk of the purity of politics at that early date, but upon a slight examination into the records, it will be seen that candidates abused one another then even more violently than in these latter times, and more rudely and coarsely, too.

Judicial circuits were on the same broad scale, and for years lawyers and judges (same as Lincoln and Douglas traveled together) went from Terre Haute to Laporte on horseback, carrying their documents in leather saddlebags. Only the toughest physiques could stand such exposure; the weaklings died young men, or went back to older communities, and so natural selection secured the survival of the fittest. Hence it was, that out of the pioneer law-

yers came a grand galaxy of great men: John Law, from Vincennes; Blake Huntington and Farrington, from Terre Haute; Caleb B. Smith, from farther east; Joseph A. Wright, Tilghman A. Howard and William P. Bryant, from Rockville; Hannegan, Patterson and Wallace, from Covington; Lane, Curry and Wilson, from Crawfordsville. Of the early lawyers who frequently practiced at Rockville, five afterward graced the bench, seven became members of Congress, and at least two became United States senators. Joseph A. Wright became governor and minister to Berlin; Bryant became chief justice of Oregon, and Howard, charge d'affaires to the new republic of Texas. Later came E. W. McGaughey, who was in Congress several terms, and Thomas Nelson twice represented this country abroad, in cases of extreme delicacy and with great success. Indeed the bar of Rockville continued to shine with brilliant and unusual luster down to if not later than 1852, after which many of the talented men removed to larger fields of operation in the West and Southwest. The Civil war came on and a new class of thinkers and workers obtained hold and have managed things at the bar in a different and more modern manner, but in no case excelling those of earlier years.

As a matter of fact, each recurring campaign brought forth some new and generally local issue in politics in Parke county, and these issues tended to make factional fights within the parties and made a very unsettled state of affairs. First came the question of a national road, which was partly surveyed in 1827. One set of civil engineers reported in favor of a route from Greencastle, with a bridge across the Wabash at Clinton; another from Terre Haute, and a third from a point some distance below. Vigo county secured the Representative and Terre Haute got the road. Before its completion Terre Haute people going to Indianapolis went north to Markle's Mills, then followed the east bluff of the wet prairies and Raccoon to Bridgeton, crossed the Raccoon and went up to Dixon's Mills, where they crossed again and followed the highest land eastward.

Then the Wabash and Erie canal became a question; it excited violent discussions for a score or more years before it was finally completed, as it did occasionally years thereafter.

One writer on this topic said: "In 1825 Joseph M. Hayes, of Montezuma, announced himself a candidate for the Legislature, with a spirited address to the people, in which he claimed the power to do much for the canal if elected. The canal and other schemes in way of internal improvement continued to agitate the people for the next twelve years; then came the sweeping panic of 1837, knocking all such matters into insignificance and turning the people's minds toward finance. The first period involved the questions

most natural to a new country, and national issues came only incidentally; the second era was the day of national issues, from 1837 to 1854, and the third was memorable for the exciting subjects of slavery, war and reconstruction. It is also curious to note that the old document from which Hayes' letter was copied, relative to the canal issue, also states that a Mr. Deweese had run a keel-boat to Roseville, and introduced the first rats into Parke county—they landed from that boat!"

In 1840 the Whigs swept everything. In March, 1841, they expected an immediate and great improvement, and Parke county property took a sudden rise; John Tyler vetoed the bank bill, and property took a tumble. Then the western people finally surrendered the hope of a national paper money, and entered on that era of financial chaos and interminable state and local banks, which lasted over twenty years. In 1842 the Whigs were divided and made a rather poor showing in this valley; but early in 1843 they were again harmonious, and set to work with a fury and partisan bitterness that seems wild to the present reader. The newspapers and speakers were all high-keyed and said many harsh, bitter and personal things one against the other, but to no avail to the Clay defenders—their idol was defeated. The Whig party, after its triumph of 1848, slowly passed away; slavery became the paramount issue, and that led to war. In that great civil strife Parke county bore a glorious part, the history of which appears in another chapter in this work. After the Civil war had ended, for many years the returned soldiers, backed by their friends, dictated the policy and the offices of the county, until about 1890-96, when a younger generation of politicians took the reins of county government into their hands and in a measure relegated the old guards to the rear, while some of the officials in the county have been Democratic and others Republican. The "stand-patter" and the "progressive" is no new thing in Parke county politics—they have thrived here for these three score years and more, and are still in evidence.

#### ELECTION RETURNS.

It is impossible to give full presidential election returns, but the following fragmentary account will give the reader a general idea of the political complexion of national matters in Parke county:

1864—Lincoln (R) -	2,112	1872—Grant (R) (Majority	983
McClellan (D) ----	1,236	1876—Hayes (R) -----	2,420
1868—(No record)		Tilden (D) -----	1,817



1880—Garfield (R) (Major- ity) -----	797	1900—William McKinley (R)—	3,064
1884—Cleveland (D) -----	1,929	William J. Bryan (D)—	2,587
Blaine (R) -----	2,562	Prohibition candidate --	205
1888—Harrison (R) -----	2,768	People's Party -----	6
Cleveland (D) -----	2,160	Socialists -----	6
1892—Grover Cleveland (D)—	1,993	Social Democrats -----	66
Benjamin Harrison (R) -----	2,363	Union Reform -----	13
1896—William McKinley (R)—	2,818	1904—Theodore Roosevelt (R) -----	3,468
William J. Bryan (D)—	2,590	Alton B. Parker (D)—	2,176
Prohibition candidate --	40	1908—William Howard Taft (R) -----	2,939
People's Party -----	156	William J. Bryan (D)—	2,647
Gold Standard -----	10	Prohibition candidate---	307
National -----	46	Socialists -----	197

## CHAPTER XII.

### PARKE COUNTY SCHOOLS.

BY PROF. JOHN A. LINEBARGER.

We, of our day and age, are so accustomed to the rights and privileges we enjoy that it does not occur to us that we are reaping the result of the earnest thought and endeavors of the men who have preceded us. This is as true in the field of education as elsewhere. We somehow fail to remember with proper appreciation the pioneers who laid the basis for our splendid system of public education.

As we have noted the meager beginning and have seen the wonderful growth and development, the organization, the supervision, the course of study, the changed teaching force, we are interested to know what has been the impetus that has brought this progress to us.

The famous Ordinance of 1787 declares "Religion, morality and knowledge being necessary to good government and the happiness of mankind, schools and the means of education shall forever be encouraged." The spirit of this ordinance is found in both constitutions adopted by the state. It seems to us that the men who have guided our state caught the meaning, for the injunction has been performed to the fullest in both letter and spirit.

We point with pride to our elementary and secondary schools and spend almost a million dollars annually in support of our higher institutions of learning. How vitally the schools have affected the life of the state we can realize only in part.

As Indiana has not been tardy in the work of education, so the history of the schools of this county shows that Parke has always kept abreast the educational thought of Indiana and the nation.

It is much to be regretted that so very little is known of the beginnings of our school system in the various townships of the county. It appears that our earliest schools were established about 1830. Sugar Creek township's first school house was located on Wolf creek in 1829, with Nathaniel Morgan as teacher. Another school was established north of the Narrows in 1830. Three schools were organized in Howard township in 1830; one in section 16 in the northern part, one in the southern and one in the eastern

part of the township. The earliest school in Liberty township was near Sylvania, with Isaac Hobson as teacher.

Reserve township's first school was in the Linebarger settlement in the house of Josiah Horgar, his son being the teacher. One year later, in 1825, the first school house was erected in this neighborhood. James Siler taught the first school in the southern part of the township in a vacant cabin near the residence of Solomon Allen, who boarded the teacher for thirty-seven and one-half cents per week.

Probably the first school in Union township was taught in the small log structure which stood for many years on the Burton farm just east of Bellmore. A more pretentious early building near Bellmore, which is thus described, may serve as typical of the best of the primitive school buildings. "The school house was four cornered. One corner was used for a fireplace and from this ascended a chimney. The floor was 'ready made.' Lumber was generally too scarce, so it was thought that the ground would do. When floors were put in they were made of puncheon. The window was an opening provided by leaving a log out of the side of the house and covering it with greased paper. The roof was of clapboards fastened down by a binder, as one would make safe a load of hay on a wagon. The seats were halves of logs with flat sides up and wooden pins for legs. There were no desks. Along the side of the house and below the window, that there might be as much light as possible, was an eighteen-inch plank used as a writing desk. Big and little reached up and bent down that they might learn to write. If there were any other fixtures besides the benches and writing desk they were in keeping with the style of house."

In 1839 a school house was built in what is now No. 1 district in Florida township. It was built by subscription for both school and church purposes.

G. K. Lankford was the first school trustee elected in Raccoon township. Prominent among the early teachers were William Goodin, Hugh Vinzant, G. L. Bailey and Calvin Pruett.

The first school house in Washington township was built in what was known as the "lost quarter." The first teacher was John McBride. Enoch Kersey taught the first school in the Roaring Creek settlement in 1833. It was a subscription school, Mr. Kersey receiving two dollars per scholar per month.

The first school in Adams township was taught by John McGinnis in the Andrew Ray log cabin on the northeast corner of the square, after Ray had moved into his new home. This was in the early twenties. Other early teachers in this township and town were William Noel, Jeremiah Depew,

John Hayes, Lucinda Depew, John Garrigus, Jesse Lowe and Judge Morris. In 1837 an effort was made to secure Asbury University (now DePauw) and liberal subscriptions were made, but Greencastle was successful.

It is impossible to state just what qualifications were required of the early teachers. There was no uniformity, even in the county. The patrons were the judges of the qualifications of one who wished to teach their children. However, we do know that he was a severe disciplinarian, who believed that the rod should not be spared, and many tales are told of the "awful" floggings that were begun by the teacher on the opening day of school and continued as an essential feature throughout the term. The writer had the pleasure of hearing "first hand" of the general condition and the character and scope of the work of our early schools. He was qualified to speak because he attended school in the early forties and taught in the early fifties. In the earliest schools, the "three R's" only were taught, "Readin', Ritin' and Rithmetic," to the Rule of Three. By 1840 some history and geography were added to the curriculum. The early teacher received a salary of about twenty dollars per month and "boarded around."

It is impossible to say when the teacher ceased to teach subscription schools and became a teacher of public schools under a real system. However, in 1861 we find Parke county with a school examiner, whose duty seems to have been to pass upon the scholarship of an applicant. Later he was given the added duty of visiting the schools of the county and reporting to the state superintendent of public instruction. Each examiner determined in his own way as to the standing of the applicant. Barnabas C. Hobbs thus describes his first examination: "The only question asked me was, 'What is the product of twenty-five cents by twenty-five cents?' As the question did not occur in Pike's arithmetic, I could not answer it. The examiner thought it was six and one-fourth cents, but he was not sure. We discussed its merits for an hour or more, when he decided that he was sure I was qualified to teach school, and a first-class certificate was given me." Mr. Hobbs probably did more than any one man to give Parke county recognition in the educational world. For more than fifteen years he was principal of Friends Bloomingdale Academy. Then in 1866 he was elected president of Earlham College and in 1868 he became state superintendent of public instruction. While holding this office he was chosen chairman of the committee for considering a scheme for federal aid to education in all states where it might be needed. In 1871 he returned to Bloomingdale and again assumed the principalship, which position he filled several years more.

In 1873 the General Assembly abolished the office of county examiner



and created that of county superintendent, or rather merely changed the name and enlarged the powers of the old office. Mr. Siler was the first superintendent of Parke county.

The list of county examiners and county superintendents, date of election, and length of term follows:

Wilson Hobbs—June 4, 1861, one year.

Edwin F. Hadley—September 4, 1862, two years.

Chester G. Bartholomew—June 14, 1864, one year.

John M. McLaughlin—June 9, 1865, two years.

Joseph Foxworthy—June 11, 1867, one year.

Ared F. White—June 5, 1868, five years.

Elwood C. Siler—June 2, 1873, two years, eight months.

Oliver Bulion—January 28, 1876, five years.

W. H. Elson—June, 1881, ten years.

Charles E. Vinzant—June, 1891, six years.

Jesse M. Neet—June, 1897, fourteen years.

Homer J. Skeeters—February, 1911, to present time.

The foundation work for the county institute is to be credited largely to Superintendent Elson, although the development has come through many years and each superintendent has contributed his share. In 1887 the enrollment was 171 and the cost \$205.00. In 1912 the enrollment was 160 and the cost \$340.00. It is doubted if any movement in the schools of any state has been a greater source of inspiration than has the county institute, bringing as it does the best men of this and other states with messages of cheer.

Along with the county institute has come the township institute, which has been of direct benefit to the schools. The teachers of the several townships meet and discuss questions of local interest and study books which deal with the history of education, psychology of the child, method of the recitation or possibly a text which is wholly inspirational. These books are selected and outlined for study by the state board of education. Each township chooses its leader; but once each year, in each township, the county superintendent is the leader.

One cannot write a history of the development of the schools of this county without speaking of the Indiana Young People's Reading Circle movement. This movement began in 1884, but it was several years before it was a vital factor in the schools of the county. This work was furthered greatly by the unceasing energy of Superintendent J. M. Neet. Mr. Neet for six years was a member of the Indiana Young People's Reading Circle board and had the honor to serve for two years as its president. More than one

year of his term this county was the banner county of the state and thousands of good books are purchased each year and placed in the hands of the children of the county as a result of his efforts in that line.

Consolidation can only be said to be in use in two townships and in those two, Liberty and Reserve, it is not carried out in the largest sense. Several other townships have abandoned schools and now transport the pupils to adjoining districts, but without changing the conditions of the school affairs of the district that cares for the children.

Township high schools have made a marvelous growth since the township high school law passed by the General Assembly of 1901, whereby the township trustees may provide secondary education. At the present time the following townships maintain high schools: Florida, at Rosedale; Union, at Bellmore; Wabash, at Mecca; Washington, at Marshall; Raccoon, at Bridge-ton, and Liberty, at Tangier. Superintendent Skeeters has been very instrumental in getting the standard of his township high schools such that the state board of education will place them on the list of certified and accredited schools. Besides these township high schools there are three other schools offering secondary instruction: The public high schools of Rockville and Montezuma, and Friends Bloomingdale Academy.

The academy has had an interesting history. In 1845 Harvey Thomas, a well known educator of Pennsylvania, conceived the idea of establishing a Western manual labor school for the purpose of furnishing a thorough education to young persons of both sexes. At first there was a farm of about forty acres on which a suitable building was erected. It was soon discovered that the manual labor system, though correct in theory, was not at all practicable on the small scale here tried and the plan was abandoned. The Friends church had been much interested and decided to take over the property. Accordingly the Friends Bloomingdale Academy was chartered under the law, to be managed and controlled by the Bloomingdale quarterly meeting of the Friends church. The board of trustees selected the principal and gave direct control to him. Those who have served in this capacity are B. C. Hobbs, Seth Hastings, John Chawner, Josiah P. Edwards, Thomas Armstrong, A. F. Mitchell, Irving King, W. J. Reagan, R. S. Coppock, William Hill and Milton J. Hover. Three years ago Prof. William Hill, a former resident of Bloomingdale, but now connected with Chicago University, organized the academy for the purpose of eventually establishing an agricultural school. The citizens of Bloomingdale and the friends of the academy were greatly pleased by his plan and much assistance was given the school. The grounds were beautified, the buildings remodeled, the faculty increased, courses in agricul-

ture and domestic science were offered. An agricultural guild was established by a number of farmers of the community. The present principal, Mr. Hover, has been working in sympathy with that movement. It cannot be told just how permanently the purpose of the academy has been changed, but the movement is laudable. The alumni of the academy numbers more than two hundred and fifty, the first class having graduated in 1869.

The attempt at graded schools in Rockville, the county seat, probably dates back to 1832. In 1839 Parke County Seminary was organized. A brick building was erected in the west part of town. James Brown was the principal and Matthew Simpson, later Bishop Simpson, was the assistant. In 1873 a new building was erected at a cost of thirty-six thousand dollars. The graded schools were held here and the old seminary building was used for a colored school and is so used to the present day. Rockville is the only town in the county that provides separate schools for the colored race, instruction in both common school and high school studies being given in their own building. The building of 1873 becoming inadequate, due to the increased attendance in high school, a fine modern building was erected in 1908. This has been a very strong factor, promoting interest in the schools, being a matter of common pride of the pupils and patrons as well. That the town and community has availed itself of the high school is shown by the fact that four hundred and twenty-five have graduated from the high school since 1876. Rockville has always been fortunate in having as members of her board of education able and public-spirited citizens who have been glad to serve the best interests of the town and community. The present board consists of J. S. McFadden, president; O. M. Teague, secretary, and W. S. Ferguson, treasurer.

In order that the statistical report of the present county superintendent may mean anything in showing the advancement of the schools I shall briefly give some comparative figures:

In 1870 there were 118 schools; in 1912 there were 110 schools.

In 1870 the total enrollment in the grades was 5,232, and in the high school, 142; in 1912 the total enrollment in the grades was 4,530, and in the high school, 383.

In 1870 the average length of the school year was 98 days, Howard and Greene townships having 58 days and Rockville 178 days; in 1912 the average length of the school year was 147 days, Howard and Sugar Creek townships having 120 days and Rockville 165.

In 1870 there were 131 teachers—92 males and 39 females; in 1912 there were 178 teachers—69 males and 107 females.

In 1870 there were four teachers employed in high school work; in 1912 thirty teachers gave all their time to high school work.

Average wages in 1870 were \$2.00 per day; average wages in 1912 were \$2.90 per day.

In 1870 the value of school buildings was \$89,000 and the value of equipment was \$6,900; in 1912 the value of school buildings was \$230,000 and the value of equipment was \$10,000.

In 1870 the total tuition expenditure was \$26,688.05; in 1912 the total tuition expenditure was \$73,415.86.

In 1870 the total special school fund expended was \$14,091.51; in 1912 the total special school fund expended was \$68,551.29.

Such is a brief sketch of the development and progress made in the schools of Parke county. It is a record of which every citizen can be justly proud. And best of all, we are not content with the attainments already reached, but we can foresee even greater progress in the next quarter of a century than has taken place in the last half century.



## CHAPTER XIII.

### AGRICULTURE AND MINING.

Agriculture and coal mining operations are the two leading industries and sources from which wealth is derived in Parke county. It was by the former that the sturdy pioneers made their living, and really is the great source which has developed the county into its present state of prosperity and perfection. The various township histories will deal considerably on this subject, in connection with the development of the county, but it will be well here to note some of the points connected with the resources of the county from these two industries.

The land is somewhat more hilly than in other parts of the state, yet there are thousands of acres of rich alluvial soil within Parke county that yields up its annual harvest to gladden and repay the industrious husbandman. It is seen in reports made to the state in 1880—nearly a third of a century ago—which gives the following report of the productions of this county:

In 1880, Parke county produced in bushels: Wheat, 636,000; oats, 68,000; clover seed, 3,600; corn, 1,085,942; Irish potatoes, 14,000; fall and winter apples, 78,000; peaches, 4,600; and of small fruits, 45,000 pounds of excellent grapes, 1,500 gallons of strawberries, 8,200 gallons of currants, blackberries and raspberries, 6,000, with many cherries, etc. In the month of August, 1881, it was reported to the state that Parke county had growing 38,000 acres of Indian corn; 11,000 of timothy meadow; 11,000 of clover; 35,000 in blue grass; and that the year previous it had produced 32,000 gallons of cider, 11,500 of sorghum, 7,000 of maple syrup and made 28,000 pounds of butter. The number of cattle reported that season was 16,000 head; fattening hogs, 33,000; stock hogs, 21,000; sheep, 29,000 head, from which wool was clipped amounting to 100,000 pounds. The same year there were 150,000 chickens, 6,400 geese and ducks, 700 stands of bees, with a production of 8,800 pounds of honey.

For the year ending, April, 1881, there was mined in Parke county, 8,000 tons of bituminous coal; number of coal miners, 166; 200 tons of fire-clay. It had sixty miles of first class turnpike, with twenty-five miles more

under construction. The present number of miles of gravel roads is something over eight hundred miles, second to only two in Indiana.

In 1910 Parke county, according to the United States census bulletins, had 2,448 farms, and were classed as follows: 183 had from three to nine acres; 146 had from ten to nineteen acres; 475 had from twenty to forty-nine acres; 669 had from fifty to ninety-nine acres; 581 had from one hundred to one hundred and seventy-four acres; 250 had from one hundred and seventy-five to two hundred and fifty-nine acres; 118 had from two hundred and sixty to five hundred acres; 21 had from five hundred to one thousand acres; 5 had from one thousand acres and over. The total land area was 286,080. Land in farms, 256,392 acres. Improved land in farms, 166,741 acres; woodland in farms, 67,326 acres; per cent. of area of land in farms, 89.6; average number acres in a farm in the county, 104½ acres.

The value of all farm property in 1910 was placed at \$18,234,495. Increase in value in last decade, 87 per cent. Average value per acre, \$51.27. Value of cattle, \$464,000; horses, \$890,000; mules, \$103,000; swine, \$298,000; sheep, \$89,490; poultry, \$90,600; colonies of bees, 987; value of bees, \$3,852.

#### AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

More than half a century ago Parke county farmers took steps to organize and sustain agricultural societies and associations, some of these being successful many years, while others fell for want of united interest and effort. Parke and Vermillion counties were long associated together in county agricultural and annual fair enterprises. The old newspaper files disclose the facts that in 1855 and on through the Civil war period up to and including 1865, fairs were held annually by these sister counties, jointly, some of which were held at Montezuma, while others were held elsewhere. Another account shows that the Parke County Agricultural Society was holding its first annual fair in 1880, after a lapse of more than twenty years. The fair grounds were dedicated; McCune's Band was present and an admission was charged to the grounds on the day of public dedication. Races were had between some of the fastest horses in Indiana. The president was S. Collings; vice-president, James A. Allen; secretary, David H. Webb; treasurer, N. W. Cummings; general superintendent, Shelby C. Puett. The grounds consisted of forty acres, with a splendid driving or race track; Ladies Hall, and many stock sheds and stalls. No "skin-games" of gaming and gambling were allowed on the grounds, no matter what price was tendered them by such gamesters.

In June, 1866, there was held what was known as the Parke County Horticultural and Rural Institute, at Bloomingdale. The president was E. C. Silers; treasurer, Perley Pearson; secretary, John M. Hill.

At all of these exhibits there were hundreds of fine displays in farm, garden, fruit, stock and handiwork, all from Parke county.

At Bridgeton, Raccoon township, in the spring of 1860, Abel Mitchell offered a premium for the best colt that could be shown in Bridgeton in June. At the appointed time there were twenty colts brought and about five hundred persons were present. This gave the idea of a fair. June 16th, that year, was organized what was styled the Bridgeton Union Agricultural Society, which became a joint-stock company and was incorporated. The fair grounds consisted of about twenty acres, with a good trotting race course. In 1880 the reports show the society to have been in a flourishing condition. A few years later, however, all fairs in this county went down, including the Rockville fair, which closed about 1890.

#### CROPS AND WEATHER.

A record was kept on Silver Island, from 1834 to 1881, by Norburn Thomas, which shows the weather and crops in that vicinity for the years included in the period named:

- 1834—All grain in bottom destroyed.
- 1835-36-37-38 and '39—Raised a good crop.
- 1840—Wheat badly rusted.
- 1841-42—A crop.
- 1843—Half destroyed.
- 1844—All destroyed July 7th.
- 1845 to 1850—A crop.
- 1851—All destroyed June 15th.
- 1852-3-4—Very dry season.
- 1855—A crop and very wet year.
- 1856—No summer so dry since the settlement of county.
- 1857—Driest spring ever witnessed.
- 1858—Crop all destroyed.
- 1859-62—Good crops.
- 1863—Corn all frost bitten.
- 1864—Short crops.
- 1865—Partly lost in October.

- 1866-7—Crops good.
- 1868—Half lost.
- 1869-73—Fair crops.
- 1875—All destroyed; highest water ever seen.
- 1876—One-third lost.
- 1877—A good crop.
- 1878-9—Small portion lost.
- 1880—To June 1st, one-third lost so far.



## CHAPTER XIV.

### MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS—RAILROADS.

The state railroad commissioner's reports for 1911-2 show the number of miles of each railroad in Parke county, main track, as follows: Central Indiana, 15.38; Brazil division of the Chicago & Eastern Illinois, 26.08; Terre Haute division, Chicago & Eastern Illinois, 4.21; Chicago, Indiana & Western, 20.89; Cleveland, Cincinnati, Chicago & St. Louis, 1.07; Toledo, St. Louis & Western, 3.08; Vandalia, 23.44. This makes a total of 91.45 miles of main trackage in Parke county.

By an old newspaper file at Rockville, dated November 20, 1859, it is gleaned that at that date the first attempt, in public, to secure a railroad for Parke county was made, by holding a mass meeting at the court house, that week, to look toward securing the Evansville & Crawfordsville line. The company wanted Parke county to donate, in subscriptions, money to the amount of sixty thousand dollars. There were subscriptions made at this meeting amounting to ten thousand dollars. The work went forward, men worked for and against the project, and meeting after meeting was held, but subscription was not popular. 1861 came and with it the Civil war opened, which stopped all such enterprises. After the war, the county was still without a railroad line. Coal had been struck in paying quantities in many sections of the county, and was seeking its outlet to the great outside world, through some system of transportation. Five different lines sought to enter or cross this county in the early seventies, and all but two failed to accomplish their aim. First, the Logansport, Crawfordsville & Southwestern, which was surveyed to Rockville in 1870, commenced to be constructed in 1871, and was completed to Rockville in 1872. Soon the old Evansville & Chicago line was leased to this company and it then made direct connections between Terre Haute and Logansport.

The east and west road, later styled the Indianapolis, Decatur & Springfield line, had already gotten as far from the west as Montezuma, this county, by the time of the 1873 panic, and by a series of mysterious business negotiations, its course was turned to the northeast and by Bloomingdale, and it was finally completed across the county in 1877-8. So it will be observed

that Rockville, the county seat, had, with the central part of the county, a splendid grade and right-of-way, while the northern portion had the road itself; the crossing, instead of being at Rockville, as popular belief was that it would be, was at an inconsiderable way station, with several small towns and hamlets, instead of the concentrated railroad and commercial interests usually found at a county seat. The road, starting out from Attica, Fountain county, was destined, it was supposed, to run through this county, en-route to the southeast, but after several miles of track had been provided for in this county, it found its coal interests led it farther to the west, hence that did not materialize to do any commercial good for Rockville.

After the shifting scenes of a full third of a century and more of proposed and completed steam railways, in this county the list has been narrowed down to these: The road from Terre Haute to the northeast, known as the Vandalia (of the Pennsylvania system); the Cincinnati, Hamilton & Dayton line, from Montezuma eastward across the county; the Chicago & Eastern Illinois, running from north to south through Parke county, entering the territory in Liberty township and passing out at the south from Florida township; the Central Indiana line. The commissioner's reports on the mileage of these various roads is found at the commencement of this item, and gives a total of less than ninety-six miles of road, but which gives ample outlet for the products of Parke county, in all directions one may desire to ship in or out.

#### COAL MINING OPERATIONS.

Some of the enterprising men tried boring for oil, but that was soon shown to be a geological absurdity in this county. Then all talk was about coal. Before the war, Professors Cox and Brown had made a hasty survey of Parke and shown that it was fortunately located on the eastern edge of the great Illinois coal field. Then local enthusiasts took up the work and proved that this county contained enough workable coal to supply the world for a thousand years. Later surveys lowered this claim a little, but proved beyond controversy that Parke had eight good seams and enough for all practical purposes. Mines were opened in every section of the county, but it soon appeared that there would be no market without a railroad, and in a little while no less than five lines were laid off through the county, of which two were actually completed. First was the Logansport, Crawfordsville & Southwestern, which was surveyed to Rockville in 1870. Work began in 1871 and trains started to Rockville early in 1872. Soon after, the company

leased that part of the old Evansville & Chicago, above Terre Haute, and after that the road was managed entirely by them from Logansport to Terre Haute.

Meanwhile the mining interests had developed rapidly. On Sand creek, three to four miles northeast of Rockville, private banks had been worked for many years; but the survey developed the fact that immense wealth in coal was waiting development there, and as soon as the Logansport railroad reached the locality active business began. The Sand Creek Coal Company, the French Mine Company, and several individuals worked the ground actively for a while, and the large and flourishing village of Nyesville sprang up in the beech wood. For a long time development was hindered by strikes and other results of the ill adjustment of labor and capital, but ere long the coal mine there established a reputation which made it the preferred of all the accessible markets for heating and steam making. Long before the war there had been some coal mined from the Wabash bluffs, in Florida township, but now the improved transportation gave it a great stimulus, and the village of Clinton Locks was in like manner built up by miners and their families. And similarly, the mines on Lower Raccoon built Rosedale and other settlements.

Coming down to the present day, the mining reports of Indiana give us these figures: Number of tons coal produced in Parke county in 1910, 728,000 tons; wages paid for mining the same, \$780,260. The names of the mines operating in Parke county in 1910 were: Brazil, No. 9, seam four feet and three inches thick; Superior No. 2, four feet and four inches thick; Superior No. 3, three feet and three inches thick; Superior No. 5, three feet and three inches thick; Fairview, five feet seam; Parke No. 11, six feet six inches thick; Parke No. 12, six feet seven inches thick; Lyford No. 1, six feet in thickness; Moore, four feet thick; Harrison, three feet five inches thick; No. 1, four feet two inches thick.

The only mining accident reported during the year 1910 was that at Superior mine No. 3, where an Italian named Carlo Ponti was killed by a premature blast, on July 25th of that year.

Coal was retailing at Rockville in the autumn of 1912 at about three dollars and twenty-five cents per ton, thus giving the population cheap fuel for both domestic and manufacturing purposes.

## BANKING IN PARKE COUNTY.

The first banking carried on in Rockville was by the Rockville Bank, organized in 1853. Besides some eastern capitalists, General Steele, Persius Harris and a few others became stockholders of a concern of which Brockway and Levings of Cleveland, Ohio, were the chief factors, commencing with an advertised capital of \$300,000. A three-ton fire-proof safe was brought from Terre Haute and placed in the Harris building, a three-story structure where Dooley's hardware stands. A force of men and twelve yoke of oxen succeeded in transporting the safe as far as the Armiesburg bridge, when all stood from under and held their breath while the ponderous load went safely over with its burden! It was not long before the capitalists of the East and the Rockville men had different views on finances and banking management, and the Parke County Bank was organized and commenced business September 1, 1855, with a capital of \$100,000. The first directors were: Alexander McCune, I. J. Silliman, John Sunderland, P. E. Harris, G. K. Steele, E. M. Benson, Dr. James L. Allen, John Milligan and Salmon Lusk. In July, 1863, the stockholders concluded to wind up their affairs and apply for a charter for a national bank. The board of directors was fixed at nine and the capital at \$125,000, and on September 1st the assets of the old corporation were turned over to the First National Bank and the latter assumed the liabilities of the former. General Steele had been president of the Parke County Bank from its first formation; he was now elected president of the national bank, and continued to be annually elected until 1871, when he declined to serve longer. Calvin W. Levings had also been cashier of the old bank from its inception, and he continued in that position in the National bank. In 1864 the capital was increased to \$150,000 and in 1869 to \$200,000. In July, 1877, the affairs of the bank were wound up, and a new charter was received under the name of the National Bank of Rockville, with a capital of \$100,000. The First National Bank of Rockville was the sixty-third national bank incorporated in the United States. Their building was completed in 1869, and went through the disastrous fire in 1870, unscathed. The charter of this bank expired May 14, 1897, when the title was changed to that of the Rockville National Bank and a new charter secured. In 1896 the capital of this institution was \$100,000; deposits, \$152,000; resources and liabilities, \$318,815. Its present capital stock is \$50,000; surplus and profits, \$78,431; circulation, \$50,000; deposits in November, 1912, were \$424,657, thus making its liabilities \$548,430.36.



Its table of resources as shown in statement of September, 1912, were: Loans and discounts, \$221,435.03; overdrafts, \$5.12; United States bonds for circulation, \$50,000; bonds, securities, etc., \$113,151.06; banking house and fixtures, \$20,000; cash in vaults, \$29,340.69; cash due from banks, \$112,007.46; due from United States treasurer, \$2,500; total, \$548,439.36. This bank belongs on the "Roll of Honor," showing that it possesses surplus and profits in excess of capital, thus giving tangible evidence of strength and security. Of the 7,500 National Banks in this country, only 1,300 occupy this proud position, and this Rockville institution is among the number. It goes without saying that it has been won by merit and worth alone.

In the original bank building, erected in 1869, provision was made for what was long known as the National Hall, a public auditorium, seating six hundred persons. It had a large stage and a handsome drop curtain, well remembered by many now residing here in Rockville. It had dressing rooms and was fully up-to-date. Its roof had a resort place where many select parties were held, and there they surveyed the attractive landscape presented by nature round about the town. Here hundreds viewed the total eclipse of the sun in August, 1869, a rare sight for any generation of men to behold. Concerts were held there, men and women were there united in marriage, and many happy gatherings were there assembled. But, like all earthly things, the building was doomed. On November 16, 1906, it was burned and the present magnificent brick structure was built the following year, and in it the postoffice is kept. This building and its elegant fixtures would do credit to any city in the country.

The officers of this concern have been in part as follows: Presidents, George K. Steele, Alexander McCune, Nathan Pickett; (National Bank of Rockville) J. M. Nichols to January 1, 1894; S. L. McCune from January 1, 1894, until expiration of charter, May 14, 1897; (Rockville National Bank) S. L. McCune, until January 3, 1897; S. T. Catlin, from June 3, 1897, to December, 1908, when he died; F. H. Nichols, from December 12, 1908, to the present time, November, 1912.

The cashiers have been: Calvin W. Levings, S. A. Hornick, William Magill, William E. Livengood, S. L. McCune, F. H. Nichols, from 1894 to expiration of the charter May 14, 1897, and under the new charter until elected president in December, 1908; A. T. Brockway, present cashier. The present assistant cashier is W. H. Dukes; also Edgar Teague. M. H. Case is the present vice-president. S. L. and M. H. McCune were former vice-presidents.

The Parke State Bank was organized, as the Parke Banking Company,

by A. K. Stark, D. A. Coulter and J. H. Tate, as a private bank. The same year they erected their bank building, a two-story brick, twenty by ninety-three feet in size, located on the northeast corner of the Square. In 1875 Mr. Coulter withdrew, selling his interest to his partners. In June, 1886, Mr. Tate resigned as cashier and removed to Omaha, Nebraska; Alfred H. Stark was made acting cashier, serving until 1887, when he was made cashier. In 1893 it was incorporated as the Parke Bank, D. W. Stark becoming associated with the new concern, a state bank. A. K. Stark was elected president and A. H. Stark was made cashier. The bank was re-incorporated under the banking laws of Indiana in 1902, under the title of Parke State Bank. Its officers in November, 1912, were A. K. Stark, chairman; A. H. Stark, president; W. J. White, vice-president; G. C. Miller, cashier; H. M. Rice, assistant cashier. The statement of the bank September 4, 1912, shows resources and liabilities to the amount of \$538,277.95. The cash capital is \$75,000; surplus, \$20,000; undivided profits, \$12,052.06; deposits, \$424,556.07.

The management of this banking house is beyond question among the best in the country. Its stock is owned by some fifty prominent citizens of Parke county, seven of whom compose the board of directors, who participate in the actual management of the bank's affairs. The board of directors is composed of the following representative business men: A. B. Collings, capitalist; W. E. Ferguson, of Ferguson Lumber Company; W. B. Thompson, of Thompson Co.; A. K. Stark, A. H. Stark, W. J. White and G. C. Miller. Their work is all checked by an auditing committee, composed of three other stockholders, besides which precaution, the bank is regularly examined by the state banking department. This double check of accounts makes it doubly safe and secure to its depositors and stockholders.

At Montezuma there have been two small banking houses, private concerns, of no great consequence, that went down years ago. Aside from those there have never been any banks in Parke county until the present ones were formed, and of which the following is a complete list, with particulars concerning them and their present standing, officers, etc.:

#### PRESENT BANKS OF PARKE COUNTY.

The First National Bank of Montezuma was established in 1904. Its present officers are: President, S. P. Hancock; vice-president, J. E. Johnston; cashier, R. W. Johnston. Its capital is \$25,000; deposits, \$90,000.

The Citizens National Bank of Montezuma, established in 1909, has a

capital of \$16,000, and deposits amounting to \$95,000. Officers: W. E. Dee, president; C. W. Hughes, vice-president; S. P. Hancock, cashier.

Rosedale National Bank, organized in 1908, has a capital of \$25,000 and deposits of \$95,000. Officers: Thomas Conley, president; E. R. Baldridge, vice-president; Clyde Riggs, cashier.

The Bank of Bloomingdale was organized in 1907, and has a capital of \$30,000 and deposits of \$240,000. Officers: E. E. Neal, president; Cyrus E. Davis, vice-president; W. M. Haig, cashier.

Mecca Bank, established 1911, has a capital of \$25,000; deposits of \$120,000. Officers: William E. Dee, president; Edward Shirkie, vice-president; S. P. Hancock, cashier.

Citizens Bank of Marshall, established in 1903, has a capital of \$20,000; deposits amounting to \$80,000. Officers: James C. Swaim, president; O. W. Burford, cashier.

The organization of the banks at Rockville has been given in full above.

In all the passing years Parke county has never had but one bank failure, that of a small private concern at Montezuma, years ago. The banks of Rockville came through the various panics and today are the business and financial pride of the entire county.

#### VILLAGE PLATS.

The following village plattings have been made in Parke county:

Armiesburg, platted prior to 1832, on sections 7 and 12, township 15, range 8 west. Plat, as executed originally, destroyed by fire of 1832. It is situated in Wabash township, on the old canal.

Annapolis, on the northwest quarter of section 12, township 16, range 8 west, was platted February 4, 1837, by William Maris, Sr., and John Moulder.

Bridgeton, on section 22, township 14, range 7 west, by James and Mary Searing, March 27, 1857.

Bloomingdale, platted September 30, 1865, on sections 13 and 24, township 16, range 8 west, by William Pickard, H. B. Little and A. D. Tomlinson.

Catlin, platted in townships 14 and 15, range 7, in the early sixties.

Coloma, platted on sections 33 and 34, township 16, range 8, January 27, 1876, by fifteen persons.

Diamond, platted on section 34, township 14, range 7, by the Brazil Block Coal Company, December 10, 1893.

Fullerton (Lodi), platted on section 2, township 17, range 9, by Jesse Bowen and others, April 13, 1836.

Guion, platted on section 7, township 16, range 6, by Robert F. Bruin, January 7, 1882.

Howard, platted February, 1848, by John Gaw, just west of Westport.

Hudnut, platted on section 14, township 14, range 9 west, by Joseph W. Morey, April 27, 1880.

Judson, platted on section 24, township 16, range 7 west, May 4, 1872, by Alexander Buchanan.

Jessup, platted by John Barnes, February 26, 1887, on section 14, township 14, range 8 west.

Klondyke, platted on section 31, township 16, range 8 west, January 15, 1907, by William E. Ferguson, Walter S. Ferguson and Mary Ferguson.

Lyford, platted on the southeast of section 14, township 14, range 9 west, May 14, 1892, by William H. Bonner.

Lena, platted on section 35, township 14, range 6 west, by Robert H. King, February 15, 1871.

Lyford City, platted on sections 14 and 23, township 14, range 9 west, by John B. Shaw, August 8, 1892.

Montezuma, platted on sections 25, 26, 35, 36, township 16, range 9 west, by Ambrose Whitlock, July 20, 1849.

Mansfield platted August 4, 1852, by Samuel B. Gookins.

Marshall, platted on section 9, township 16, range 7 west, by Alfred Hobson and Mary Hobson, November 19, 1879.

Mecca, platted on section 20, township 15, range 8, August 7, 1890, by Samuel L. McCune.

Numa was platted by John Wilson, October 10, 1836, on section 25, township 14, range 9 west.

Northampton, platted on sections 7 and 8, township 16, range 6 west, December 26, 1851, by William and John Aydelott and Jesse Collings.

Nyesville, platted on section 34, township 16, range 7 west, by Martin Newling, October 18, 1872.

Parkville, platted in township 16, range 6 west, October 4, 1837, by Presley Doggett.

Rockville (original), platted February 28, 1825, on section 7, township 15, range 7 west, by William P. Bryant and T. A. Howard.

Rosedale, platted on parts of sections 25, 27 and 34, township 14, range 8.

Sylvania, platted on section 10, township 17, range 8 west, by David Hadley, September 6, 1839.



Tangier, platted by William B. Swaine and Edmund Lindley, March 13, 1886, on section 15, township 17, range 8.

Westport (now Howard), platted by T. N. Burton and James R. Burton, on section 18, township 17, range 8 west, June 20, 1836.

West Union, platted on section 17, township 16, range 8 west, February 18 1837, by John G. Hongham.

West Atherton, platted on section 36, township 14, range 9 west, by Sirena L. Modesett, August 23, 1908.

Waterman (formerly Lodi), on section 8, township 17, range 9 west.

#### POPULATION OF PARKE COUNTY.

The population of this county, according to the 1910 United States census reports, was as follows:

Total population, 22,214; the towns, cities and villages as listed in the census compendium was, Annapolis, 200; Bloomingdale, 528; Bridgeton, 219; Catlin, 185; Colma, 184; Diamond, 1,070; Guion, 50; Jessup, 75; Judson, 141; Lena, 225; Lyford, 100; Marshall 334; Mecca, 1,350; Montezuma, 1,537; Nyesville, 95; Rockville, 1,943; Rosedale, 1,166; Sylvania, 200; Tangier, 275.

The total population of the county in 1861 was 15,538; in 1870 it had reached 18,166, and in 1880 it was placed by census reports at 19,406.

From the above it will be observed that of the inhabitants in 1910 there were 9,810 living in the towns and villages, while the balance of 12,333 resided in the country, the total being, in 1910, 22,214. (See Township Histories for present population of each township.)

The above shows an increase in population of three and four-tenths per cent. between 1900 and 1910. The county has 474 square miles and a population to each square mile (average) of 49.7 persons.

The foreign population includes: Austrians, 176; English, 149; Italians, 163; Scotch, 103; Welsh, 28.

The sex are divided, 11,556 males and 10,658 females.

The per cent. of illiteracy in the county is 5.3 per cent. of the entire population.

Those of school age are 6,770; of those attending schools, 4,604, or 88 per cent.

The number of dwellings in the county is, 5,349; number of families, 5,414.

WITNESS TREES.

The late J. H. Beadle is authority that there were in all about three thousand "witness trees" blazed by the United States government surveyors in this county, as shown by the record of the land office. In 1880 there were but a few still standing, the balance either having died from old age or been thoughtlessly cut down by the axeman. At that date there was an effort made to prevent these trees from being destroyed.

RECORDS BURNED.

In the month of November, 1832, the building containing the deeds and other valuable public records of Parke county was burned. All deed records were burned save those recorded in book "D," which was opened November 12th the year before and was only about half filed. These deeds were all recorded with a quill pen in elegant style of penmanship by the recorder, Wallace Rea.

LEGAL EXECUTIONS.

The first legal execution in Parke county was that of Noah Beauchamp, on Friday, February 8, 1843, in the timber southeast of the Rockville cemetery, by Sheriff Jesse Youmans. People came from far and near to this execution, even from Illinois and surrounding counties in this state. It was a bitter cold day and several women, with babes on their arms, were present and drank whisky freely, with the men, in order to "drive out the cold."

The second execution in the county was that of Buck Stout, on August 8, 1883 by John R. Musser. This was really a case from Montgomery county, but was tried in the courts of Parke county.

TAXATION LIST OF 1833.

The following shows how property was taxed in 1833, in Parke county:

Poll tax .....	37 $\frac{1}{2}$ c
First-class land, per acre, one hundred acres.....	80c
Second-class land, per hundred acres.....	60c
Third-class land, per hundred acres.....	40c
Each hundred dollars bank or other stock.....	25c
Each town or out lot, one-half cent per dollar assessed valuation.	

## SOLDIER'S REUNION, 1875.

The greatest military gathering in Parke county was in 1875, when a reunion was held of the old soldiers. At least fifteen thousand people gathered at Rockville, and the occasion was graced by the appearance of Gen. William T. Sherman, one of the two great heroes of the civil conflict.

## MARKET QUOTATIONS.

In 1854 the *True Republican*, of Rockville, had the following local market quotations in its columns: Flour, \$7.00 per barrel; wheat, \$1.10; corn, 48 cents; oats, 40 cents; rye, 45 cents; molasses, per gallon, 25 cents; coffee, 43 cents; sugar, 5 cents; rice, 6 cents; butter, 28 cents; bacon, 7 cents; ham, 15 cents; eggs, 10 cents; tea, from 60 cents to \$1.00; cheese, 10 cents; honey, 15 cents; chickens, per dozen, \$1.50.

The quotations at Rockville in October, 1865, a decade later, and after the close of the Civil war, were as follows: Wheat, \$2.00; apples, \$1.00; Irish potatoes, 40 cents; butter, per pound, 35 cents; eggs, per dozen, 15 cents; lard, per pound, 20 cents; bacon, 20 cents; feathers, per pound, 60 cents.

The present year, 1912, papers give the following in their September issues, as being the going prices: Corn, 69 cents; wheat, 85 cents; oats, 40 cents; barley, 53 cents; rye, 70 cents; flax-seed, \$1.62; potatoes, \$1.13; hay, \$14.00; butter, 23 cents; eggs, 18 cents; hogs, \$7.11; clover seed, \$9.80; wool, 18 cents; coal oil, 15 cents; gasoline, 20 cents; nails, 3 cents; calico, 6 cents; muslin, 10 cents; sugar, 6 cents.

## DAYS OF MOURNING IN PARKE COUNTY.

The news of the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln, on the night of April 14, 1865, at Ford's theater, Washington, D. C., by the shot fired by J. Wilkes Booth, and from which wound he died at 7:22 the following morning, was received at Rockville just as the citizens were making out a program for a great jollification meeting over the news of the previous day of the surrender of Confederate General Lee to General Grant, which meant the close of the war. The jollification meeting was turned into one of mourning, and Governor Oliver P. Morton, who had announced by proclamation that April 20th would be observed the state over by the loyal Union citizens as a day of jubilee and rejoicing, recalled his proclamation and that day was

set apart in Indiana as a day of mourning for the fallen magistrate. At Rockville no large demonstration was held, but the citizens met at the court house the day following the receipt of the sad news and arranged for a public meeting on the following Sabbath at the court house, at which Rev. McNutt was called to serve as chairman and Samuel Magill, S. F. Maxwell and Thomas N. Rice were appointed a committee to retire and draft a set of resolutions, which had five sections and which were soon presented and passed by the assembly, after which the Doxology was sung and the benediction pronounced. The hour seemed too sad and sacred to make speeches and none were made, at length. It was a blow which struck to the very heart of all, and it was many weeks before the people of Rockville and Parke county could rally from the terrible shock of real grief.

#### GARFIELD'S DEATH.

Wednesday, September 21, 1881, memorial services over the death of President James A. Garfield were held in Rockville, at the Presbyterian church. The business houses were tastily draped and all places closed during the exercises that afternoon. Flags were hung at half mast. At two o'clock the bell tolled its solemn tones, in memoriam of the death of an assassinated President, the second in this country. The audience within the church sat in quiet and hushed attention. The McCune Cadets marched with draped flags and reversed arms from the armory and, upon invitation, took seats near the stand. The church was appropriately decorated under direction of Capt. J. F. Meacham, Dr. Wirt, and Misses Mary McEwen and Maggie Thompson. A large portrait of the deceased President, in a shield embellished with the flag, crepe and flowers, hung on the wall behind the pulpit. Above this were in large, golden letters of beautiful design, the then memorable words, "God reigns." Hon. Thomas N. Rice was president of the day and spoke touchingly. Rev. W. P. Cummings offered invocation and Rev. William Y. Allen read the Scriptures. Short addresses were made by A. F. White, Rev. John L. Boyd, Rev. McSmith, Dr. Gillum and J. T. Johnston. At the close, the Cadets fired their military salute and marched back to their armory.

The next Sunday memorial services were held in the Christian church.

#### M'KINLEY'S DEATH.

Again the hand of the assassin laid low another beloved President, William McKinley, who was shot in Buffalo, New York, while attending the



Pan-American Exposition, and who died September 14, 1901, from the wounds inflicted upon him eight days earlier. A befitting tribute was paid to the dead President by the city of Rockville. The entire population devoted Thursday, September 19th, from two to four in the afternoon, to the honor of the beloved magistrate. When the hours for the exercises at the opera house arrived the auditorium was filled with truly sorrowing and reverent people. The decorations were in keeping with the occasion. A large picture of the dead President was quite prominent, being beautifully mounted, and underneath was the inscription: "God's will, not ours, be done." The meeting was called to order by S. D. Puett; invocation by Rev. J. C. Christie; a memorial sermon was delivered by Rev. H. N. Ogden; a short address was given by Hon. James T. Johnston, who was introduced as a personal friend, a comrade in the days of Civil war on the tented field and a colleague of his in Congress four years. He naturally spoke with much feeling of the lamented President. Next, Elder O. E. Tomes followed Mr. Johnston with a brief tribute, in which he discoursed in a most masterly manner and compared Mr. McKinley's assassination with those of the lamented Garfield and Lincoln.

#### PRESIDENT GRANT MEMORIAL SERVICES.

The *Rockville Tribune*, on July 23, 1885, contained this item: "We stop our press, after a part of the edition is printed, to publish the following: 'Western Union Dispatch—New York, July 23, 1885. General Grant died at 8:08 a. m.'"

Saturday, August 8, 1885, was observed in Parke county, and especially in Rockville, as well as generally through the United States, in honor of ex-President U. S. Grant. By common consent all business took second place in people's minds, in city, town, village and country, all parties and classes uniting in public testimonials to the memory of General Grant, as he was best known. Rockville had services not soon to be forgotten by the younger generation. It was stated at the time that perhaps no town of the size in all the broad land observed the day so worthily and well as did Rockville. Before noon, a large concourse of people was on the streets; the proprieties of the occasion (that being the funeral day of Grant in New York City) were well preserved. Soon after noon all business was suspended. The Opera House Band took its place in the west balcony of the building and played a sweet and plaintive air, which music touched the heart of every one in hearing, more than all the words spoken on that occasion could possibly have done. The Grand Army of the Republic issued from their hall and marched in step

with the music to the opera house, faced outwardly and gave the order, "Salute the dead," then dispersed among the audience. The body of the house was completely filled and a portion of the large gallery. Chaplain Rev. B. P. Runkle offered prayer, solemn and impressive; Hon. Alfred F. White, chairman, announced the order of exercises; Capt. John H. Lindley read the memorial address; Hon. Thomas N. Rice followed with the regular oration. It will long rank as among the local classics. He traced thoughtfully and tenderly Grant's every step from Cadet Grant and Lieutenant Grant, to the great commander over millions of men. Next Capt. Frank M. Howard spoke in behalf of the Grand Army of the Republic, emphasizing the "unconditional surrender" and "fight it out on this line if it takes all summer" theories of Grant, and wound up his remarks by these eloquent words: 'But, we comrades would love to believe that since the day he died, somewhere on the Elysian plains, the boys each night have bivouacs around the old commander. The G. A. R. salutes the dead comrade and general! Men shall not look upon your like again, Old Soldier, hail and farewell!"

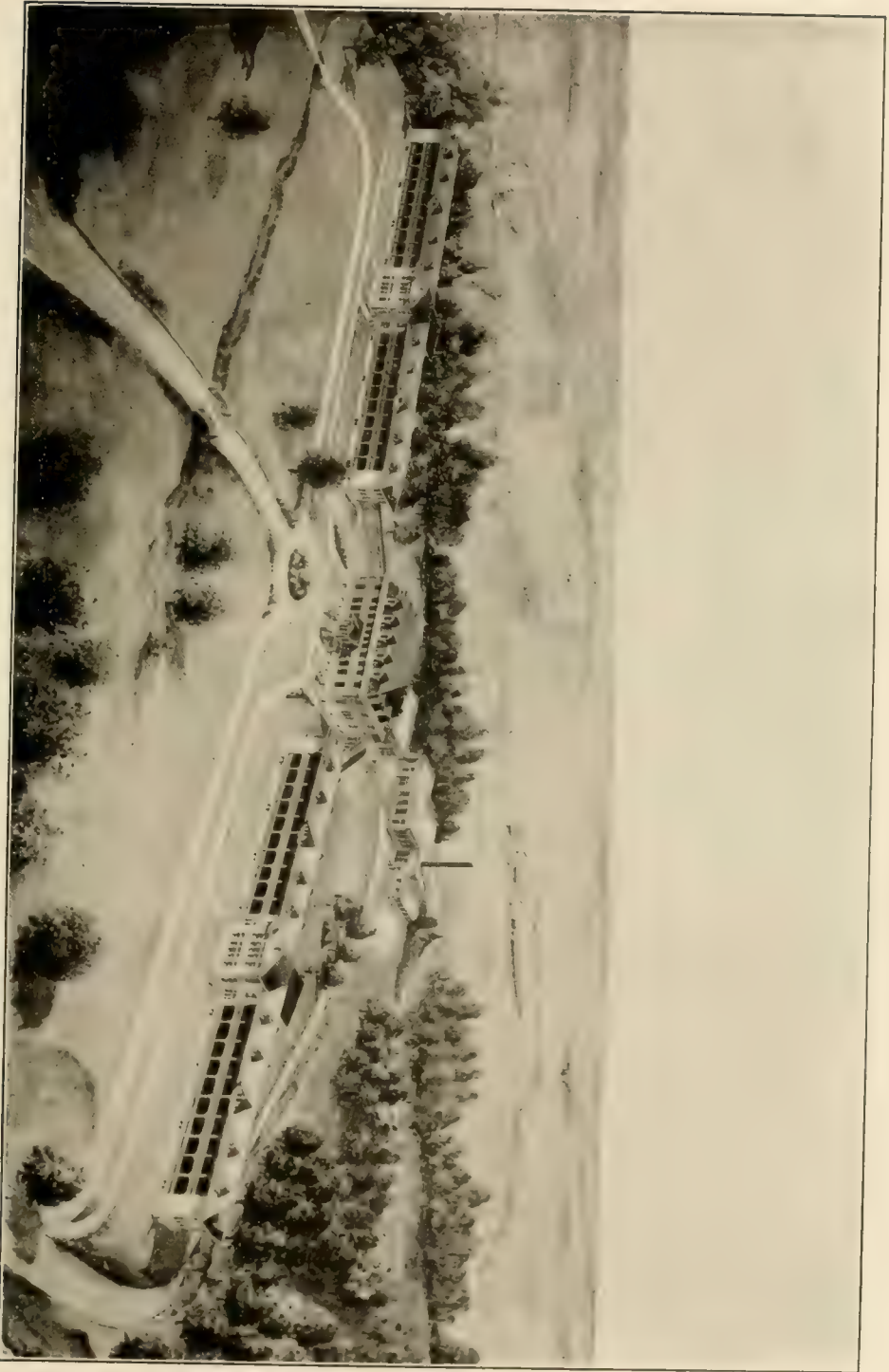
John H. Beadle spoke of Grant as a citizen. Dr. W. H. Gillum was invited to represent the Confederate army. He praised Grant for his military bearing and tact, and also for his great magnanimity in his final hour of victory over the South. He said that in his humane conduct that he had excelled all other commanders, either North or South. It was not blood and revenge Grant worked for, but peace and prosperity, and for these he contended and finally won over the "Lost Cause" which the speaker fought for in the Confederate ranks.

## CHAPTER XV.

### THE STATE TUBERCULOSIS HOSPITAL.

At Rockville, the county seat of Parke county, is located the Indiana State Tuberculosis Hospital, and while it is a state institution, it is deemed a proper subject to be placed in the annals of Parke county. From facts obtained from the late Dr. H. B. Leavitt, the popular, talented and efficient superintendent, whose death was chronicled this autumntime, and from other sources, the following may be relied upon as the history of this institution to date of November, 1912:

After prolonged efforts on the part of the state health authorities, who had repeatedly shown the necessity of a state tuberculosis hospital, the Legislature of 1905 passed a resolution authorizing the Governor to appoint a committee to investigate the need of such an institution, and report their findings and conclusions to the next Legislature. The committee was appointed and after a proper investigation it made a report to the Legislature in 1907, recommending that the state of Indiana needed a tuberculosis hospital and that two hundred and fifty thousand dollars be appropriated for that purpose, but the Legislature only appropriated enough to purchase a site and authorized the Governor to appoint a commission to locate and purchase a site. The committee was constituted as follows: J. N. Babcock, Topeka; Dr. Henry McClure, Indianapolis; Benjamin F. Bennett, Greensburg; Isaac R. Strouse, Rockville; W. S. Holman, Aurora. This committee of five inspected twenty sites in this state and hospitals in other states, and finally selected and purchased five hundred and four acres, three miles east of Rockland is rich bottom ground, while the rest is rolling high pasture and woods. The commission made a report to the Governor and Legislature in 1909 and asked for an appropriation of three hundred thousand dollars for the purpose of erecting a hospital which would accommodate two hundred and sixty patients, but the Legislature appropriated only one hundred and thirty thousand dollars. The commission then proceeded to commence the erection of a hospital, first, an administration building, a power house to the rear, which furnishes steam heat, water and electric lights to the institution. Next to this is a steam laundry, with all modern equipment. On the sides of the administration building are two pavilions, one for men and one for women, connected



BIRDSEYE VIEW OF INDIANA TUBERCULOSIS HOSPITAL.





with the administration building by means of two covered corridors. The ward buildings contain forty rooms each, with bath rooms, sun parlors, diet kitchens and nurses' rooms. The upstairs and downstairs porches run the entire length of the building except where the sun parlors run through them in the middle. The rooms upstairs are equipped with so-called Indiana convertible sleepers, a device used in no other state institution in this country. Each room is equipped with a bed, dresser and chairs. A corridor at the rear of the rooms runs the entire length of the pavilion and connects with the glazed corridor to the administration building. The glazed corridors from the pavilions to the main buildings have proved indispensable during cold winter weather. The administration building contains on the first floor business office, superintendent's office, examining room, operating room, X-ray room, staff dining room and board of trustees' room. The second and third floors furnish the quarters for the staff and employes. The laboratory, dark room and store rooms are located in the basement. In the rear of the administration building are the kitchen and patients' dining rooms, and in the basement the ice plant and cold storage rooms, bake shop and the employes' dining room.

The commission then made a final report to Governor Marshall and turned the hospital and site over to him. The Governor accepted it on the part of the state and issued a proclamation October 31, 1910, and appointed Dr. Henry Moore, of Indianapolis, Isaac R. Strouse, of Rockville, and Dr. O. V. Schuman, of Columbia City, as trustees to manage the institution. This board qualified under the law and held their first meeting December 1, 1910. The Legislature of 1911 made an appropriation for maintenance of the institution for two and one-half years at the rate of nine dollars per week for each patient, also made a specific appropriation to stock and equip the farm, build a roadway to the hospital and completely equip the wards, administration building, power house and laundry. They also made an appropriation of five thousand dollars to erect ten houses for fifty patients. After the population of the hospital had reached one hundred patients, the trustees advertised in various journals and received more than thirty applicants from eight different states for the position of superintendent. After due consideration and examination, Dr. H. B. Leavitt, of Worthington, Indiana, was elected as superintendent, and Dr. W. A. Gekler, of the Winyah Sanitarium, of Asheville, North Carolina, was selected as head physician of the hospital, which was opened for patients April 1, 1911, with one patient, a staff consisting of superintendent, head physician and matron and the following em-

ployes: Two trained nurses, an electrician, engineer and fireman, laundryman and assistant, baker, head cook, two waitresses in dining room, dish washer and two domestics, a farmer, dairyman, carpenter and teamster. The force has been added to from time to time as necessity demanded.

The operating and treatment room, which has since been more fully equipped, serves for the minor surgery and dressings, and various other treatments, such as nose and throat. The examining room, which is the office of the head physician, contains the chart records which are kept for all the patients. The chart system at the hospital is really a composite of the best systems in use in other public and private institutions of the country, and is second to none in the point of completeness and amount of information kept on file.

During the first year of its existence this hospital discharged thirty patients as cured; that is, every sign of activity in the lungs on physical examination had disappeared and the general condition equal to or better than that during usual health. This classification of cured patients is somewhat more exacting and less favorable for statistics than that of many other institutions, but is also much more reliable and trustworthy. The hospital has not been opened long enough to ascertain the percentage of relapses among these cured cases. The number of those in whom the disease has been arrested is about the same as those cured. Many of these arrested cases have, by taking care of themselves at home, resulted in cures. The term "arrested case" is applied to those who no longer present any of the symptoms of the disease and whose general condition is normal, but in whose chests there are still some slight signs of activity. Very few patients who have remained in the institution more than a week or two have failed to show improvement as manifested in subsidence of symptoms and gains in weight and strength. As is to be expected, a number of patients have been admitted to the hospital who simply refused to stay any length of time and, of course, showed no brilliant results. The average gain in weight among those who gain is over ten pounds, while the average loss is about three pounds. In addition to the physical benefits the patients derive from their stay at the hospital, each one of them gets a first-hand object lesson in personal cleanliness and careful and proper disposal of sputum. They are, by means of pamphlets and lectures, given all the information possible concerning the disease so as to be of benefit to those about them upon their return home in an educational way. The law governing the institution requires that only incipient cases be admitted for treatment, but it is often hard to draw the line between incipient and moderately advanced cases. It has been the policy of the institution to accept all those in

whom a cure or at least decided improvement has seemed to be possible regardless of the amount of lung involvement. Advanced cases, in which the disease is limited to one side only can be treated by some means of artificial pneumothorax and if not cured, at least decidedly improved, but there are many cases which cannot be accepted.

Isaac Strouse, of Rockville, editor of the *Tribune*, above named as one of the original committee to select a site for this hospital, and who really had more to do with the final selection at Rockville than any other member of the committee, is now a trustee of the institution and since the death of Dr. Leavitt, has had active management of the institution. The people of Parke county will owe a debt of gratitude that years cannot repay, for the services Mr. Strouse has been able to render them in the matter. Since the death of Dr. Leavitt, Mrs. Leavitt has been appointed matron of the institution, an appointment worthily bestowed.



## CHAPTER XVI.

### TOWN OF ROCKVILLE.

Parke county was organized in 1821. Rockville was laid out in 1824 and settled as the county seat permanently that year and received its name from the granite bowlders thereabouts. Gen. Arthur Patterson and Judge McCall donated twenty acres of land, Aaron Hand twenty and Andrew Ray forty acres, on which the public square and present business houses are located, in 1823-4, when a native forest was cut from the town site and Andrew Ray built the first house, a log cabin. In 1825 the town had between five and six hundred population.

After Rockville had reached its townhood, the first persons to come in were Gen. Arthur Patterson and Judge James B. McCall. They had just arrived and fairly got settled as the platting was accomplished. McCall was a surveyor of land. These two men erected the first business house, a large one-story frame, situated on the southwest corner of the Square, where now stands the Presbyterian church. Some years later it was raised to a two-story structure. General Patterson was a man of polished manners, very energetic and strong-willed; he was the life of the town, and its progress was largely due to his untiring energies. He was the father of Judge Patterson, of Terre Haute. McCall, his partner, was a surveyor and lawyer, but gave no attention to either profession while residing in Rockville. He died by his own hand, at Vincennes. In 1826 about a dozen families came in, but the town grew slowly. In addition to those named, were John Ashpaw, Jeremiah Ralston, Wallace Ray, the Lockwoods and Dr. Leonard and Dr. McDonald. The number was increased by James and Robert McEwen, who came in March and at once put in their tannery, the first in the county, aside from that of Caleb Williams, who located in 1821. James Strain, Sr., a tanner by trade, came in March, 1824, and went to work with Williams, but in a few years bought the machinery of the tannery and moved to Rockville. Both finally run down and were little used after 1850. In a couple of years the large trade carried on by Patterson and McCall attracted other business men to Rockville. Before 1830 Duncan Darroch, John R. Marshall, John Sunderland and Persius Harris were all engaged in merchandising here. Harris was a Campbellite minister. Marshall and Darroch were in trade on the

south side as early as the winter of 1826-7. Sunderland's store was on the southwest corner of the Square, on the south side of High street. Andrew Foote opened a store soon after and was in trade for many years. Wallace Ray was the first postmaster and was succeeded by Matthew Noel, who was an early justice of the peace. Scott Noel came in 1826 and held many public positions, being postmaster many years. Jonas Randall came from Ohio in 1829 and erected the old Hungerford buildings. James Pyles was an early blacksmith. In 1832 he was keeping hotel. In 1827 there were two cabinet shops—small affairs—and there the household furniture such as had to be purchased was made and repairing done; also the few coffins needed were made and trimmed in these shops. Not long after 1830 James McCampbell and McMurty started in business. These men were merchants and pork-packers, and carried on a large trade with New Orleans. The next business men were Walter C. Donaldson and Erastus M. Benson, who opened a store. Tyler S. Baldwin, who, with Judge Bryant, had been reared among the Shakers in Kentucky, was also a prominent business man. George W. Sill and James Depew first clerked for Baldwin, but later became his partners. Sill arrived here in 1833, and continued in trade for twenty-five years. It is related that his "words were softer than oil." In 1836 Jeremiah Ralston was conducting a store in Rockville. Adamson & Robinson and Levi Sidwell all settled about 1836. The last named, in company with Mr. Rosebraugh, opened the first drug store, Robert Allen & McMurty being in trade about this date also. The firm of A. M. Houston & Company was composed of General Alexander, M. Houston, William P. Mulhallen and Pembroke S. Cornelius. Houston's partners were all young men, but he was a noted character in Rockville and community. He had been a general in the militia and served under Jackson in one of the Indian campaigns. He was a Southern gentleman, who had not altogether escaped Southern ways and vices. In his early days he had been a gambler, and had made and retained a good fortune, and lived in elegance and ease. Later in life he was converted to the Christian faith and united with the Presbyterian church, in which he was ever afterward an active member.

The first millinery store in Rockville was established by Mrs. Lucinda Bradley, about 1837; her husband was a carpenter. Mrs. Lucy Smith and Mrs. Watson each had shops a little later. Another pioneer was Gabriel Houghman, who came in from Butler county, Ohio, in 1830, settling a half mile south of town, but in 1837 moved to the town and engaged in merchandising in the firm of Allen, Noel & Company; he soon bought Allen out. For twelve years he held public offices, first as deputy sheriff, then county

assessor, sheriff three years, and in 1850 was elected to the Legislature. At that date he bought the Rockville House, on the northeast corner of the Square, where later the Rice block was erected.

In 1841 J. M. Nichols settled in Rockville and embarked in the tinning business, his being the second establishment of the kind in town, the first tin shop being that of Diocletian Cox, who had left before Mr. Nichols went into business. At a little later period came he who was later known as Gen. George K. Steele. He did a large business and was prominent as banker, politician and railroad promoter. Among the most universally admired and excellent business men that early Rockville ever had was Isaac Jarvis Silliman, a New Englander, who also was in the milling business, an account of which is given elsewhere in this work.

Just at the close of the Civil war, a woolen factory was put in operation by Sill & McEwen, at least they started it, when one of the firm died, after which Nichols & Thompson completed it and operated it until about 1875, when it ceased to longer pay interest on the investment. The machinery was mostly sold and the factory abandoned. The factory was a three-story building, forty by eighty feet in size. The property cost twenty-eight thousand dollars.

In 1829, Samuel N. Baker, from Kentucky, settled on the Leatherwood and started a pottery, in which he made red-ware till 1833, then removed to Rockville and built another pottery, which he operated until his death in 1860. It was continued by his sons, James H., Samuel and Charles, till 1873, when the last mentioned started one in the northeast part of Rockville, where for several years he turned out twenty-four kilns of ware each year, averaging upwards of forty thousand gallons of earthenware. In 1880 the old one was producing about twenty-four thousand gallons per year. Stoneware, such as crocks, jugs, vases and flower pots, were there made in large quantities.

The town has always been noted for its excellent saw-mills and, while the forests are fast disappearing from Indiana, there are still many fine trees being annually converted into lumber at the mills in Rockville. The business interests in Rockville, a third of a century ago, included these: Four general stores, one clothing house, three groceries, two boot and shoe stores, one harness shop, one provision store, three furniture stores, and undertakers shops, two jewelry stores, three agricultural and hardware stores, three grain warehouses, two newspapers, two carriage and two wagon shops, two blacksmith shops, two saw and planing mills, two hotels, two boarding houses, three millinery stores, two banks, one photograph gallery, four shoemakers, one

repair and machine shop, three saloons, two livery stables, two brick yards, one tile factory, two potteries, and several loan and insurance agencies.

#### DESTRUCTIVE FIRES.

From the pen of J. H. Beadle, who wrote on Rockville in 1880, we take the liberty to quote the following concerning early conflagrations in the town of Rockville:

"Rockville has been terribly scourged by fire. It had not suffered more than an average percentage of loss from this cause until 1871, when three conflagrations in that year burned out three sides of the public square. The first occurred on the night of July 4th, on the south side. The buildings were all wooden and, with the exception of the one on the southeast corner, rookeries; but to some the loss was not less severe on this account, though the aggregate was inconsiderable, when compared with the later fires, especially the one on the north side. This last took place on the night of September 17th. Starting in the old hotel on the northeast corner, it swept everything clean to the National Bank. Here was concentrated a greater part of the business and of course here was the greatest loss. Several of the best brick buildings in the town were in this row. The estimated loss, after the insurance was paid, was about sixty thousand dollars. The east side was consumed on the night of December 8th, seven brick front rooms being destroyed, besides less valuable property. The old hotel on the west side, where the new one is now building, was burned at another time. The south side fire was thought to have been accidentally caused by a crowd of drunken men; but the others were supposed to have been incendiary.

"The town has never had an adequate fire apparatus. It has a small engine which is more effective in relaxing vigilance and promoting fancied security than otherwise. So far as the appearance of the town is concerned, these fires have been an advantage; they made room for large, tasteful edifices which now cover the ground."

The last great fire was that of the night of November 16, 1906, when the National Bank block burned, causing a loss of thirty thousand dollars. The Terre Haute and Bloomingdale fire companies came to the rescue, but too late to save the property. This building had the old National Hall on one of its floors and was a fine auditorium. Dr. Goss lost his modern physician and surgeon's office in this block and he lost expensive apparatus, with little insurance on same. The city now has a better protection against fires than it has ever before had.



The old opera house in Rockville was dedicated June 9, 1883, by John E. Owens. It was built by the Rockville Opera House Company, at a cost of thirty-five thousand dollars, and seated eight hundred people.

In the autumn of 1912 the new and strictly modern opera house was opened to the play-loving public. It was built by a stock company at a cost of twenty thousand dollars and easily seats eight hundred persons. The architect was W. H. Floyd, Terre Haute; builder, Edgar Jerome, Rockville. The stockholders are F. H. Nichols, president; Frank M. Adams, vice-president; Allen T. Brockway, treasurer; George L. Laney, secretary; Howard Maxwell, John S. McFadden, Sidwell Alden, S. F. Max Puett, J. M. Johns and D. M. Carlisle. The committee on building was Howard Maxwell, D. M. Carlisle and J. M. Johns.

#### MUNICIPAL HISTORY.

For thirty years Rockville was an unincorporated place, but in July, 1854, voted to incorporate, and the first election of officers resulted as follows: Board, Harvey L. Hoss, D. W. Stary, E. S. Terry, Isaac J. Silliman, James H. Sanderson; clerk, F. W. Dinwiddie.

The records are not in suitable condition to give lists complete. The 1912 officers are: Board, H. E. Marks, president; William F. Graham, William B. Thompson, E. J. Coleman, B. J. Hunnicutt; clerk, William T. Patton; treasurer, F. H. Nichols; marshal, Joseph Boardman.

#### THE POSTOFFICE

The postoffice at Rockville is a third-class office. The present postmaster, J. H. Spencer, was commissioned March 1, 1906, and succeeded I. L. Wimmer, who had served one term, while the present incumbent is now serving on his second term. During his administration the office has handled over twelve hundred pieces of registered mail matter and not a single loss in the entire time. There are now seven rural free deliveries going out from this office. The last two years, ending March 30, 1912, the business of this office has been in excess of seven thousand dollars each year. Two assistants and the postmaster do the work of the office. The postal savings department of the Rockville office was instituted November 2, 1911, and has not thus far proved to be a large depository, but is increasing some. While its safety is acknowledged, the low rate of interest prevents many from depositing.

## WATER WORKS AND LIGHTING PLANT.

After several years of discussion, and with some opposition, an election was called to determine whether Rockville should be supplied with a system of water works that would make her on an equal footing with other towns. Finally, on May 1, 1893, such an election was held and the result was that there were found two hundred and eighty-three voting for the measure as against one hundred and fourteen opposition votes. September 5, 1894, a contract was let to sink, within the town limits, a six-inch well of the tubular type. In all, three such wells were sunk, but a sufficient flow of water was not found and the plan was abandoned and one was put down in the Little Raccoon bottoms, on the farm belonging to S. C. Puett, where a heavy flow of pure water was obtained at the depth of twenty-five feet. July 31, 1895, the town board advertised for plans and specifications to erect water works, and on September 12, 1895, nine bids were opened for the construction of the plant. None of these bids was accepted, however. Public opinion was unsettled. The next move was to construct water works and light plant, combined, and this plan was carried into effect in August, 1903. There had been an electric lighting plant owned by private capital in Rockville for several years and this the town of Rockville purchased and combined the water works and electric light plant in one, since which both have given good and profitable service to the citizens and taxpayers. They now have forty-nine hydrants, situated at various points in the town; a high stand-pipe and tower which throws water to a good height by direct pressure of the pumps. Improvements at the plant and about the town are being made the present year.

A volunteer fire company is organized and with the water works system, aided by a chemical engine and hook and ladder appliance, the present fire chief, L. W. Brown, is enabled to do good service at fires. The water supply, at present, is derived from deep wells on the Raccoon bottoms, two and a half miles east from the town. There is also a well at the plant in town, which can be relied upon in case of fires. The water at the big well, east of town, is affording an abundance of the purest water.

## CEMETERY AT ROCKVILLE.

The cemetery at Rockville has been in use since 1824. Up to 1883 there had been buried within this sacred enclosure over two thousand persons. The land consisted of a six-acre tract. The first to be buried there was a child of Pioneer Hann; she was buried on her father's own land, a part of his estate.

and of which he soon gave the public an acre, including the spot where the dear one was interred, thus making a start towards the present cemetery. The grounds are just to the southeast of the city proper. Up to 1826 there had been only five burials there, in the two years of use. No record is found back of 1839. John Alexander commenced his duties as sexton of this cemetery in 1843 and up to 1883 nine hundred graves had been dug by him. There the strong man and the frail woman, the infant and the aged, had been put beneath the sod. Civilian and soldier had there been buried, including many of the Civil war soldiers, and one continental soldier—Jesse Duncan—who fought at Guilford Court House, whose remains lay on the east end of lot No. 147. Many beautiful family monuments and memorial piles now grace this cemetery, which is kept in fine condition. With the return of each spring time, and Memorial Day, the graves are visited and the green carpeting moistened by the tear-drops of the friends of those who lie there, sleeping their last sleep. Of recent years many improvements have been made on these lots and today the passerby recognizes a Christian community, for no other so carefully watches the resting places of their departed dead.

There have been at least three additions made to this "Silent City," but in all only about eleven acres are platted, and but about eight of this has been occupied with graves.

#### INDUSTRIES OF ROCKVILLE.

Milling is one of the earliest industries in almost any community, and here in Rockville the flouring mill industry was first established in 1853-4, by a New Englander named Isaac Jarvis Silliman, who was a pioneer miller at Bridgton and Armiesburg, where he was a partner of General Patterson, both in milling, merchandising and distilling. About the date last mentioned, he came to Rockville and entered into a partnership with O. J. Innis and J. M. Nichols. In a few years Innis retired, and Silliman and Nichols purchased the mill. Early in 1860, William M. Thompson and James H. McEwen bought Silliman's interest in both mill and store property. A few years later Silliman died, greatly regretted by the community, at the age of seventy or more. In 1864 the mill was sold to Eglehart and Brothers, of Evansville, and finally went into the hands of the national bank here, and it was burned in 1884. After this the citizens were greatly in need of such an industry as a good flouring mill, and then commenced the remarkable history and career, in Rockville, of the Rohm family, three generations of which have been connected with flour-making in this section of Indiana. In April, 1893, E. H.,

Calvin and George W. Rohm, sons of Jacob Rohm, who had commenced milling at the age of ten years for his father, began the construction of a modern flour mill at Rockville, on the site of the old woolen factory, where plenty of good water and other conveniences were at hand,—the site of the present roller mills,—and made their first flour on New Year's day, 1894. It is a brick structure, with metal roof, and is grouped with the power house, warehouse and roomy office. As far back as 1896 this mill employed eight men. It is still running at full capacity and is known far and near for its superior grades of flour.

The only other important industries in Rockville are its two quite extensive lumber mills and wood-working machinery, the one being the extensive works of the Ferguson Lumber Company, the other, Graham & Company, both of which firms do a large hard-lumber milling business.

It may be added that the town now has five garages in successful operation, and that many automobiles are sold and used in Parke county.

#### ADVENT OF THE COLORED PEOPLE.

According to the 1870 United States census, Adams township had seventy-four colored population, of which fifty-five resided in the town of Rockville. The year after the Civil war closed—1866—there was only one colored person in the town, Alexander Harper, a hatter by trade; he died and his family went away. Patrick Thomas arrived that year and was soon followed by Alexander Black. In 1870 Abram Gaston brought his family to Rockville from North Carolina; he accompanied Samuel Kirkman, who had been back on a visit; this was the first family from that state. In the colony that emigrated from that state in 1872 were Joseph Kirkman, Jesse Kirkman, Anthony Brower, Jesse Craven and Ransom Coble. By 1880 colored people had come in from the Carolinas, Virginia and Tennessee till they numbered fully two hundred, many of whom became excellent citizens and not a few became well-to-do persons, who seemed to prize their liberty and rights, and they and their children have kept up this record of good citizenship until this time. They support a Methodist and a Baptist church and a public school.



## CHAPTER XVII.

### ADAMS TOWNSHIP.

Adams township, in which the seat of justice is located, has, in common with others of Parke county, no public record showing the facts connected with its organization and settlement, owing to the fact that the records made by the early county officials were all burned in the fire of November, 1833. Except for the first actual settler, there is abundant proof about who the first settlers were. It was contended at the date of the old history, by Walker Adams, that his father, James Adams, made a settlement in 1816, on the Little Raccoon in what is now known as Adams township. He further contended that the township derived its name from his father, all of which looks plausible, though possibly he has fixed the date of coming a little too early. However that may be, it is usually granted that Adams was first to locate in this township, and that it was before 1818. There is no account of any others coming in prior to 1821, to make permanent homes for themselves. In 1817 a colony of several families emigrated from Butler county, Ohio, and settled on the Big Raccoon, in what came to be known as the Bell Settlement, near Bridgton. Among those were Abel Bell, Tobias Miller, Solomon Simmons, the Adams and Webster families. Isaac McCoy, the celebrated Indian missionary, had his home in the same region. A few years later Aaron Hand, also from Ohio, joined this colony. In the spring of 1821 Solomon Simmons moved and located, a mile southwest of Rockville. In the autumn of the same year Aaron Hand came up from the Bell settlement and located on the present site of Rockville. Greenberry Ward and his father, James Ward, made a tour of exploration and in their travels found Cornelius Sunderland, living on what in later years was known as the Beadle farm. In 1822 came James McGinnis, settling a mile and a half south of Rockville. Cornelius Sunderland arrived the same year. Andrew Ray came to Rockville that year, early in the spring, but was here the autumn before and located his lands. At that date land hunters were numerous and there was much rivalry to see who should obtain choice bottom tracts of bottom lands. A party consisting of James Glass, John Miller, Jacob Miller and Thomas Wolverton, who were much disheartened at not being able to secure such lands as above mentioned, were on their way to Montgomery county to search for a better

choice of lands, when they were happily directed by a Kentuckian to the "divide between the two Raccoons." Upon examination, the country pleased them and they decided to locate there, and were joined by Tobias Miller, Reuben Webster, Lawrence Cox and a few more. So general was the satisfaction at finding their desires, that James Kelsey named the settlement "New Discovery," and it is still spoken of as such, and churches and schools have been named for it. A wonderful rush soon pushed forward for this portion of the county. The land office was soon moved from Terre Haute to Crawfordsville, and the route was dotted all the way with newcomers' places, and smoke from many cabins greeted the eye. For the choice of land men took great chances at swimming streams and they rode day and night, through drenching rains and other fierce storms, often exhausting and sometimes killing the horses which bore them. Next was heard the sound of the settler's axe and saw, in clearing up the forest and making farms. The crashing of falling beech, walnut and sugar trees might have been heard on every hand, preparatory to the log-heap and crackling fires.

The spring and summer of 1822 were exceedingly wet, and the newcomers were sad and disheartened with water all around them, and mud, mud, mud at their feet. They hauled their grain from Fort Harrison, but found other supplies at Roseville. Toward the close of the summer the rain clouds passed by and sunny weather was present to greet them. Here might have been seen men and women with children at their knees, far distant from their former homes and out of reach of every civilized comfort, spreading their beds and boards in a trackless wilderness, infested with venomous reptiles and wild beasts, voluntarily seeking rough toil, accepting coarse food, and facing all but famine, yet yielding to nothing but protracted and blighting disease and sometimes death. Their experiences form a story of trials, privations and sufferings, and a picture of heroism and triumph, which can never be accurately depicted by the pen.

The *Rockville Tribune* at one time published the following incident that may throw some light upon this state of affairs:

"Nancy, wife of Cornelius Sunderland, had been to her father, Nathaniel Page's one afternoon late in the autumn of 1821 or '22, to borrow a reel. The houses were not more than half a mile apart and as she was returning she strolled along, gathering nuts, buried in the leaves on the ground, failing to note the direction, and strangely oblivious of everything around her, until her attention was arrested by a sudden darkening of the sky and falling of snow flakes. On looking up she discovered that she had missed her way, but, correcting her course, pressed forward with all haste, in the supposed

direction of her home. She had not proceeded far before she was filled with alarm at finding herself in a dense forest, and totally ignorant of her whereabouts. The snow was falling fast. The deep gloom and grand silence of the woods added to her painful feelings and situation and her fears grew almost frantic, when she noticed the dog that had accompanied her had disappeared. She searched wildly about for the path, shouting every few steps, and then pausing for an answer, but hearing no sound but the beating of her own heart. On and on she wandered without a glimpse of a single object she knew to relieve her terrified thoughts. Night came on and still she groped about. The boughs were now bending beneath the weight of falling snow. At length, finding that her traveling and calling were only a vain waste of strength, and wet, cold, faint and overwhelmed with despair, she took shelter in a hollow tree, where she passed the night. As soon as daylight came she renewed her fruitless endeavor to find a habitation or to attract attention by her cries. As hour by hour went by she continued her wanderings till late in the afternoon, when her strength was gone and, benumbed with cold, she sat down to await help or die.

"When evening came it was known that she was lost. Her husband, greatly distressed, spread the alarm and the settlers north of the Big Raccoon turned out in a general search. By the middle of the next day all the west part of the county was aroused and had joined the relief party. About sunset John Sunderland, while hunting along the bluffs of Raccoon, heard a faint cry, so faint that he could not ascertain the direction, till several times repeated in answer to his shout. Following the sound, he came upon a human being leaning against a tree, whom he confidently believed to be a squaw. He supposed she had been abandoned or lost by her tribe, nor was it till he drew near and actually touched her, that he recognized his sister-in-law! Thirty hours of toil and suffering had completely transformed her; her dress was in rags, her voice was almost gone, and she was so chilled that she could not climb upon a log, and he had to lift her to a horse and then hold her as he would a child. But the constitution of a pioneer woman soon brought health and she survived to a good age, to be the mother of a large family of vigorous sons and handsome daughters. And it is recorded that, womanlike, she had held onto the borrowed reel, through all her wanderings."

Other early settlers outside of Rockville, not already named, were: Joseph Wilkinson, who came from Warren county, Ohio, in 1825, and located in New Discovery; James Ward and son Greenberry, in 1826; Nathaniel Page, about the same time. By about 1830 nearly all the land, at least all of the choice tracts, had been taken up, and settlements were evenly distributed.

It is related that it was then uncommon to find a stretch of country where there was not a house at least within two miles of another. The Indians had nearly all departed. From 1825 to 1831 there were numerous parts of tribes of the Delawares and Pottawatomies left behind the main tribes of these Indians. The settlement at Rockville is mentioned in the town or city history of that place, hence is omitted here. Aside from the interests at Rockville, the township is an agricultural section, now highly developed and full of beautiful farm homes and a happy, intelligent and prosperous people. A table elsewhere gives the population of this and every other township within Parke county. The Educational chapter treats of the early and present schools, while the chapter devoted to churches gives much concerning the various branches of religious work in Adams township. The wagon roads leading into Rockville are numerous and all well graveled at this date, and the number of carriages and automobiles owned by the farmers is indeed wonderful, while the rural free delivery of mail and the parcel post make a net-work of the township. These all present a great contrast to the days of 1822, when the first stakes were stuck by the hands of a few pioneers. The valuation of property, real and personal, in Adams township in 1912 is \$1,250,500, outside the city of Rockville. Including the city, the valuation, as per recent assessed list, is \$2,500,000. The 1910 United States census gave Adams township (outside town of Rockville) a population of 1,417.



## CHAPTER XVIII.

### FLORIDA TOWNSHIP.

Florida is the extreme southwestern civil sub-division of Parke county. It is bounded on the west by the Wabash river; on the north by Wabash and Adams township; on the east by Raccoon township and on the south by Vigo county, Indiana. The old canal runs through its western borders. Its towns and hamlets are Coxville, Rosedale, Jessup, Lyford, Hudnut, Numa, and numerous postoffices, some established many years since, but abolished upon the introduction of the modern rural route system. Its area covers about forty-eight square miles. Its population in 1880 was 1,944, while at present (1912) it contains about 3,170 people. In 1880 its assessed valuation was \$689,364, in real estate and personal amounting to \$175,662, as against a total in 1912 of \$1,324,155. Its territory is watered by Little and Big Raccoon rivers. Along these streams, which are really large creeks, and along the Wabash river are the bottoms, stretching more than a mile in rich level lands, and where some of the finest crops of wheat and corn are produced annually. Back of these valleys are the bluffs showing their rocky heads, but soon wear down to a level country again. These flats formed by the raising of the bluffs are almost level, and at some remote period, possibly formed an island. East of Rosedale, the country forms a flat sandy section, resembling the prairies of Illinois somewhat. The north part of Florida township is very rough and broken, but most of its land has been utilized by energetic farmers and stockmen.

The township was named, according to Jesse R. Youmans, at its organization in the fall of 1821, from David Loree, a pioneer who had emigrated from such a named township in New York state. The first settlers in this township are to be classed among the first pioneers within Parke county. Among such sturdy, self-sacrificing characters may be recalled John M. Doty, whose axe was among the very first to be heard ringing through the forests of the county. He settled east of Rosedale, where he remained till overtaken by death. Another was Henry, a family well known in Parke county, through their descendants, to this day. It is claimed that this family settled east of Rosedale about 1816, and the place where they first set stakes,

almost a century ago, is still known as Henry's Prairie. Mr. Henry had four sons, John, William, Moses and Isaac. William died in Florida township in 1848; Moses was killed while en route to New Orleans with a flat-boat loaded with pork. The forks of the creek were settled by John Adams and James and Moses Barnes, from Kentucky. William Evans came to Florida township about 1820. One of the first settlers in Parke county was Joseph Walker, who came in 1816, locating on the bluff in the southwestern part of this township. This was ever afterwards styled Walker's Bluff. He first pre-empted a quarter section, where he built a log cabin, sixteen by eighteen feet, and there set out the first orchard ever planted in the township. He also built the first brick house in the town. A Mr. Kispert later owned and occupied this place. In 1819 Chauncey Rose settled in the township, which also was the date of the building of the Raccoon Mills on the stream where Roseville was afterward built. Rose came to the country a poor man, and when he bought his land bought it simply for farming purposes, little dreaming that he was to sell corner lots from the tract he had selected. Other early settlers were Messrs. Robbins and Brooks, who were early factors at Roseville and carried on merchandising at that point many years. In 1820 William Smith built his log cabin three-quarters of a mile to the south of Rose-dale, on Henry's Prairie, and lived there until 1835, when he erected a double-log cabin where Rosedale was later situated. He who was usually styled "Major," really James Smith, came in 1820, and has always been recognized as the first settlers on the bluff north of Jude Walker's. He finished a cabin eighteen by twenty feet, and became the owner of nearly a section of land. It was there that David D. Loree made his home in the spring of 1820. He came from New York, from which state he started on a flat boat, accompanied by his brother's wife and her daughter, Minerva (later Mrs. Brown). Capt. Daniel Stringham, a soldier of the Revolutionary war, and Jonathan Rockwell settled on what was known as Yankee street at about the same date. Other early settlers were John and Sylvester Sibley, Zebina Hovey, the celebrated pioneer carpenter of this county, and Hector Smith. An early blacksmith was Mr. Drure, in 1823 on Walker's land. Most of the following men were in Florida prior to 1830: Joseph Cahill, David Hix, Samuel House, John Crabb, Seba H. Case, Peter Pence, Z. Fenton, Abraham Laney, the Rukes, John Steward, the Boatmans, Benjamin Dailey, George Baugh, James Laney, the Kilburns, John Cottrell, James Burson, Cephas Fisher.

The township is now well developed and made up of wealthy and fair-circumstanced farmers. Some of the old settlers have sons and daughters

still residents of the township where their forefathers first settled, while a majority of the people are of a later generation who came from other sections of this and other counties. The schools and churches are all mentioned in the general chapters of this work, hence are not further noted in this connection. It may be stated in passing, that the pioneer Chauncey Rose very greatly resembled Daniel Webster. He was a man of character, enterprise and great public promoter of good in Parke county.

#### VILLAGES OF THE TOWNSHIP.

Florida has several small towns and hamlets, including the following: Roseville, the first village in the county, received its name from Chauncey Rose, its first settler, who entered the land upon which it stands in 1819, and soon commenced the building of a grist mill on the banks of Raccoon creek, which was for many years known far and near as the Raccoon Mills. A saw-mill was soon completed a short distance above the flouring mill. He also erected a cabin or two, for himself and those who worked for him, these being the first erected in the village. The mill soon grew to be one of great promise and drew customers from a radius of more than twenty-five miles. After many years the mill did not longer produce sufficient flour for the increasing demand, when another was constructed, being later owned and operated by Daniel Kiblar. The first store was run by Moses Robbins, which was opened about the same date as the mill. At first the Indians were the best patrons, and Mr. Robbins was by them called "Old Mohawk." They brought him large quantities of furs, for which he exchanged to them coffee, tobacco, "mad water," etc. "Uncle Moses" kept in stock everything that was called for by both white and red men, and for many years drove a successful trade and barter, but finally died a poor man. Judge Wedding conducted the second store in the village and operated it successfully till he removed to Terre Haute. In 1820 a tan-yard was established at Roseville, a quarter of a mile to the southeast of the mills. After two years it proved a failure and was abandoned. A distillery was also thought necessary and one was built at the foot of the bluff, and there many a barrel of whisky was made and sold at twenty-five cents per gallon, and shipped to New Orleans on rude flat-boats. Another was situated a half mile south of the first one and was known as the McCamic still-house. In 1825 Robbins and Wedding were extensively engaged in pork packing and shipping to New Orleans. The first doctor was Dr. McDonald. In this village the first session of court was held in Parke county. The first grand jury sat here, and here the first indictment was

found, while the first case was tried in the court which was in session, the same being a criminal case. John Grim, for stealing some furs from the Indians, was sentenced to the penitentiary for one year. Between 1825 and 1835 Roseville was indeed a lively place. It soon began to decline, however, when Rockville opened up and, in addition to the county business, also drew trade which had formerly gone to Roseville.

Numa, situated on section 26, range 9, was first settled by John Wilson, he having entered the land and laid out a part of his farm into town lots in 1837. These lots were advertised in 1838, and a number sold at prices ranging from twelve to fifteen dollars. Nearly every person in the neighborhood purchased one of these town lots. Mr. Wilson erected the first frame house in the village, it being designed as a hotel. The stage which carried passengers along this road from Terre Haute to Lafayette stopped here to change horses and eat their meals. The hotel had a sign reading, "Entertainment for Man and Beast," and as it did not pay, Mr. Wilson tore it down and opened a general store. In 1840 Mr. Gleason erected a large frame building in the southern part of town, which was used both for hotel and store purposes. Gleason sold to Silas Bowers, after which it became a noted place. During the building of the canal quite a business was carried on at this point, but when that highway was finished the interest in the town was forever gone.

Clinton Lock received its name from the fact that the locks of the Wabash & Erie canal were situated at this place, and also from its location immediately across the river from the city of Clinton. In June, 1880, it was named Lyford. It is in section 14, range 9, and is a station now on the Chicago & Eastern Illinois railroad. John Crabb entered the land on which the village is situated, and in 1833 sold to his son, W. G. Crabb. He built a large warehouse there in 1850; it was on the bank of the canal and was forty by eighty feet, two stories high. After the days of the canal it was no longer needed for grain, and in 1862 it was sold to Youman & Smith. A. & J. M. Lyons put in a stock of merchandise in 1851, amounting to seven thousand dollars. At the closing of the canal in 1865, everything in the town seemed to instantly decline and went to decay. It remained defunct until the autumn of 1873, when a switch from the Evansville & Terre Haute railroad was put in and run to the mines and warehouse of Asa Fitch, who put in fifty men and shipped fifteen cars of coal per day. A year later another mine was opened half a mile to the north. In 1875 the railroad purchased these switches and recognized Clinton Locks as a station point on their line. That year the store was opened and in 1877 a store was conducted by Lake & Company. In 1879 the old warehouse was purchased by Hudnut & Company.



who carried on a large business. It was in 1879 that the great stave factory was established at this point by Jesse Clutter, who there made about seventeen thousand staves each twenty-four hours. Later a cooper shop was added and thus the staves made up into casks and barrels. West of the village the first ferry was run from Florida to Clinton. It was owned by David Patton, and consisted of a simple flat-boat pushed across the Wabash by means of poles, the fare being thirty-seven and one-half cents per team.

Rosedale received its name from pioneer Chauncey Rose, of Terre Haute. The coming of the Terre Haute & Logansport railroad was the commencement of this village so well known now. It is situated in the southeastern portion of Florida township, and was platted by Ephraim Doty. The first house there, built by William Smith in 1835, was a large hewed log house twenty by forty feet. The whole community assisted in raising it, occupying two full days. It still stood in 1890, the property of Jerry Beal. Nothing of importance happened at this point until 1860, when the railroad was finished and a store was built; also a warehouse and mill, a drug store and school house. Frank Bell was the first postmaster, receiving his commission from President Lincoln in January, 1862. The village had a population of one hundred in 1880, but of recent years it has improved greatly and the census of 1912 gives it a population of 1,166. All branches of small town business are here represented by enterprising men.

Jessup, another hamlet of this township, is situated in the northeastern part of the township, and derived its name from Mr. Jessup, an old resident of the community, and who at the completion of the "pumpkin vine railroad" moved near where the village now stands. Pleasant Hawkins and Monroe Barnes, of Terre Haute, who shipped a barrel of pork addressed to "Jessup," really originated the name. The road was just finished and the conductor and train crew searched the list of towns, when they finally decided to put the goods off for Jessup at that point, and they were making a point in history of which they then knew not! The place is not of great importance, yet, as a trading place, has been a good thing for the people of that section. It now has about seventy-five population.

West Atherton is located in the extreme southwest corner of the township, and is a small station point on the branch of the Chicago & Eastern Illinois railroad.

Another town in this township is Coxville, a thriving hamlet of more modern type than many already named.

## CHAPTER XIX.

### GREENE TOWNSHIP.

Greene township is congressional township No. 16 north, of range 6 west, and is situated on the east side of Parke county, with Putnam county on its east, Union township to the south, Washington to the west and Howard township and Montgomery county on its north. The north and south branches of the Little Raccoon flow through its domain. Big Raccoon cuts off a small corner of this township on section 36, where Portland Mills is located.

The surface is varied. Along the banks of its streams it is much broken, rising in places to considerable hills and bluff land. The northeast quarter and south half are level and well adapted to agriculture. The soil is exceedingly fertile. Limestone abounds on the west side of the north branch, and there are numerous outcroppings of coal, with indications of some iron. On the east side of this branch sandstone of three kinds, red, yellow and gray, is found in considerable quantities. It is well suited for building purposes. Fire rock, used for chimney and fire-place backs, is also found in this township. The township was originally one dense forest, embracing many varieties of excellent timber. In the more swampy parts the underbrush was so thick, together with pea-vine and nettles, that a road had to be blazed, that children might find their way to and from school at an early day. In 1880 two-thirds of the township was under a fine state of cultivation. Much improvement has been done there in the passing of the last three decades. What is or was known as the Lindon thicket, or swamp, and considered by the pioneers as worthless land, is now the most valuable in all the township. It may be said that Greene is an average farming section of Parke county. Sufficient gravel is found to construct all the roads necessary in the territory.

The Vandalia railroad traverses the northwest corner of the township, while the Cincinnati, Hamilton & Dayton line passes through the entire northern part of it, with a station junction of both roads located at Guion, a hamlet of fifty persons. The present assessed valuation of the township is \$1,005,580, while its population in 1910 was placed by the United States cen-

sus as 1,009. Of the schools and churches other chapters in this work will treat at length.

#### INDIAN DAYS AND WILD GAME.

The early settlers saw the redmen at their doors asking for food and to trade with them for furs. Their principal camp was on the north of Little Raccoon, northeast of the railroad crossing at Guion. Here, for the last time in the history of Greene township, they built their camp-fires, sang their songs of war and the chase, raised the war whoop, and bade adieu to the hunting grounds and graves of their fathers. They were at all times friendly to the settlers, yet it is said that one John Hathaway lost no opportunity to dispatch an Indian. His father had been murdered and himself wounded by them, at a settlement on the Wabash, and he had sworn to wreak out vengeance in their blood. Indian relics found there are such as arrow heads, stone axes, and one iron tomahawk, once in possession of Ambrose Lambert, was a real curiosity; it had a curved blade about five inches long by two and a half in width; the pole served for a pipe; the handles to this combined instrument of war and peace are one.

Once game of every kind belonging to this latitude was found here in abundance. To see twenty-five deer in a drove was nothing uncommon, or turkeys to alight on the trees in numbers so great as to break down their branches. Squirrels, porcupines, mink and other small animals were as common as small birds are now; now, only a few squirrels remain. Among the early settlers Ambrose Lambert was the most successful hunter. Snakes of almost every kind were here in great numbers. East of Parkville, on the old Mathias Sappinfield farm, is what is known as "snake den." Here, in a cliff of sand-stone, serpents of all kinds came in the fall to take up winter quarters. In the spring, men came and killed them in great numbers, as they basked in the sunshine on the rocks.

#### EARLY SETTLEMENTS.

In the autumn of 1821, five families emigrated from Kentucky to this section of the county. These were Daniel Bruin, Sr., James Buchanan, David Todd, Abraham Durlin and Ambrose Lambert, accompanied by three young men, and they all settled on the west bank of the north branch of Little Raccoon, south of the railroad crossing of today at Guion station. This without doubt was the first settlement in Greene township. They came not to hunt

deer and dig "sang," but for the purpose of building for themselves permanent homes. These sturdy pioneers went to the task of felling the giant forest kings and erecting cabin homes in what was a vast wilderness. Abraham Durlin's cabin was the first ready for occupancy, but by the time the winter's blast had come on, all were comfortably housed for the long, dreary winter. But hard times were in store for this little band of pioneer settlers. They had little money or grain, and had to purchase the latter from neighbors at very high rates. Then the sound of the water mill had not yet been heard in the settlements, and the roads were little more than paths beaten by wild beasts and wild men in days long gone by. When they had corn, they reduced it to hominy by means of the wooden mortar. This they made in two grades, coarse and fine. The former was eaten, with such other food as they could procure, for breakfast; the latter was made into a kind of coarse bread and served the remainder of the day. At all times, however, they were supplied with an abundance of wild game. This tided them over until a small patch of ground could be cleared, and a crop raised. Yet, it is written that nearly all lived to be old men and women. This colony was followed in the spring of 1822 by about fifty families, who settled near them in Union, Washington, Greene and Howard townships.

The second settlement was effected at Portland Mills, in 1823, on the line between Parke and Putnam counties, by Clemen Gare, Moses Hart, John Foster, Lemuel Norman and Samuel Steele, all of whom were from Kentucky. The immigration came rushing in mightily from Kentucky, Pennsylvania and the Carolinas, until about 1836. As early as 1830, the pioneers saw the rude round-log cabins, with their board roofs, mud chimneys and paper glass windows, all around them in every direction, but as the years wore away better abiding places were provided.

#### MILLS OF THE TOWNSHIP.

The greatest drawback in this settlement was the lack of mills. Roseville, twenty-five miles distant, was their nearest milling place. So bad were the roads and so high the unbridged streams at times that the families had to subsist on such meals as they were able to make by hand, such seasons lasting sometimes for weeks. Then a settler never went to mill alone, but the neighbors would all club together and go with their teams in a company. Extra men went ahead, to hew out a road-way and assist the drivers in crossing streams and hills. The first mill in this township was erected at Portland Mills, in 1825, by Samuel Steele, father of the better known George Kirk.



patrick Steele, and pioneer settler of that place. This was a combined grist- and saw-mill. It was many times rebuilt and finally, in 1880, was owned by J. E. Blake, being then looked upon as Parke county's best mill. The flour made there at an early day was hand bolted. The pioneers and their children looked upon Mr. Steele as a great benefactor to his race, and today, were they living, would plead for his bust to adorn the Hall of Fame.

The first, as well as only, still for making liquors in this township was built and run by Mathias Sappinfield, on his farm, one mile and a fourth east of Parkeville.

The village of Parkeville was platted in township 16, range 6, October 4, 1837, by Presley Doggett. Guion, another hamlet, already mentioned, was platted by Robert Bruin, January 7, 1882, in section 7 of the same township and range.

## CHAPTER XX.

### HOWARD TOWNSHIP.

Howard is the northern township in Parke county, in range 6, township 16. The east and south boundaries are each six miles in length, and the northern boundary is three miles long. Fountain county is to the north, Montgomery to the east, while on the south are situated Greene and Washington townships. The western boundary is very irregular; along this lie Sugar Creek and Penn townships, the latter bounding only a spur, one and a half miles wide, projecting from the southwest of Howard township. On the west and south of Howard township is some farming land as fine as the "Kingdom of Parke" contains. Along the Sugar creek, which flows southwest through the township, the surface is very broken for some distance away from the banks. The east and south parts of the township are divided into large farms, well improved and now very valuable. In lieu of good farms the hilly country is rich in its deposits of mineral wealth, sandstone of several varieties, and limestone, fit for any sort of buildings. The soapstone beds in the township are twenty feet in thickness, between two strata of sandstone. Coal and iron ore crop out from the hills. Coal is found in a twelve-foot vein and of good quality.

Up to 1855 Howard formed a part of Sugar Creek township. Before this several petitions were presented to the county commissioners by the citizens on the west side of the township for a division as it is now, but these petitions were denied them. In 1855, through the energies of Col. Casper Budd, the trustee of Sugar Creek, these petitions were finally granted. The territory thus set off was organized into a civil township, called Howard, by Colonel Budd in honor of General Howard, then one of the county's most prominent men.

In 1912, the assessed valuation, real and personal, of Howard township was \$458,025. Its present population (1910 census) is 666. The schools and churches are treated under separate general chapters in this work. The first church organization was in 1833 and the first school was taught in 1830.

## EARLY SETTLERS.

The original settlers in what is now called Howard township were Henry Litsey, Samuel Snook and James Long. The first located in 1822, on Sugar creek; the same year came to section 31 Samuel Snook and the third was James Long, on section 17. In 1823 the stream of immigration began pouring in to Parke county from Kentucky and North Carolina, and by 1830 there was little choice land for sale. Of these few settlers it may be stated that they were quiet, industrious people, who came not for office or speculation, but simply for the purpose of making for themselves and families homes. They made their own cloth from the flax they raised; ate bread from the grain they had sown and threshed by hand, and in most cases had pounded it into meal and flour. But few bushels were left when the family and stock had been supplied. In 1830, Salmon Lusk bought and packed pork at the narrows of Sugar creek. This furnished the people with a little ready money in exchange for the little stock they produced. At the same time and place Prior Wright opened a small general store, which supplied them with the few actual necessities needed. With the surplus of a ten-acre farm, when pork was only one dollar and twenty-five cents per hundred, calico thirty-five cents per yard and salt five dollars per barrel, they could purchase but little. These pioneers were nearly all God-fearing people, and early organized church societies and held worship in log houses, where the God of their fathers was worshiped in a true and faithful manner.

The great trouble encountered at that day was the securing of suitable breadstuffs. Prior to 1826 the nearest points at which they could obtain flour was at either Alamo or Roseville. In 1826 Salmon Lusk built a mill at the narrows of Sugar creek. The first mill built in the township was by Uriah Clore; the second was built by Blumens White in 1853, and later known as Scott's Mill. No serious epidemics have ever visited this township, and but few fatal accidents have occurred. The first person killed was James P. Robinson, who fell from his wagon going down a hill near Rockville. The next was a lad, named William Montgomery, who was killed by the falling of a tree, and the third, Richard Watson, was crushed by the beam of a clover huller at Jacob C. Banta's.

## CHAPTER XXI.

### JACKSON TOWNSHIP.

Jackson township named for old "Rough and Ready," Andrew Jackson, once President of the United States, is in the extreme southeast part of Parke county, with Putnam county to its east, Union township north, Raccoon township west and Clay county, Indiana, to its south. The "hills of Jackson" is a common expression in speaking of this portion of the county. Yet much good land is found within the limits of the township. The once giant forests have been cleared away and beautiful farms are now seen in many sections. The saw-mill here was early set to work and did its part in developing the country. The Big Raccoon cuts off the northwest corner, passing out in section 18. Along this creek lie the rich alluvial bottom lands, more valuable than any other kind of soil. The southeast is quite level, the balance being rough and hilly. The township abounds in numerous beautiful, never-failing springs of pure water that gladden the heart of both man and beast. Then there is a wonderful sulphur spring. The Indianapolis & St. Louis railroad passes across the southeast corner of this township, and one of its stations is the village of Lena. The old settlers were nearly all dead by 1880. The first settlements were effected in the Big Raccoon valley about 1820, at a time when the Indian roamed up and down that stream at will and was "lord of all he surveyed." About 1820 the first cabin in the valley was built where Mansfield now stands, being erected by Nelson and Hubbard, for James Kelsey, as a residence. In 1821 lands were entered by George Kirkpatrick and Nash Glidwell came from Ohio. Robert Glidwell surveyed through this section in 1816, and about 1823 entered land, his patent being signed by President Monroe. In 1821 Zopher and Emily Coleman sought a home in the wilds of Jackson township, settling north of the present site of Mansfield. They came in from South Carolina. That year a son was born to them and they named him Zopher, Jr., he being the second born in the township. George Hansel was born in Pennsylvania in 1795, and when the war of 1812 broke out he enlisted and aided in the defense of Fort Hamilton, also crossed the White river and helped to destroy the Indian town. Prepared by these experiences, he came to what is now Parke county in 1820, and entered land



in what is now the northwest part of Jackson township. He left for two years, and then returned to occupy the lands he had selected. He was much engaged in the early surveys of this county and constructed with his pen a map of Parke county, showing all the surveys, sections and streams. He served as justice of the peace many years, being the first elected in Jackson township. Jacob Cole later owned the farm he settled upon. As early as 1825, William Bullington arrived. He came from Kentucky to this state in 1815, having moved from Virginia to Kentucky in 1807. He said that there were not men enough in Parke county to raise a respectable cabin, and that many of them lived in their wagons and camped out. Bullington accompanied the Indians from Mansfield to St. Louis when they were removed from Ohio to the Osage country. These Indians, one thousand two hundred in number, divided into three detachments, separated from each other a day's journey, so that the hostility existing between different tribes might be controlled. Bullington was twenty-three days with these Indians, when he returned. By trade he was a mason. In 1869 he removed to Union township and in 1880 was still living, having reached his four score years.

Jesse and Amelia Moore both emigrated from South Carolina to Kentucky, and in 1826 to Jackson township in this county. They started October 8th, and arrived here and leased twenty-seven acres in the northeast quarter of section 9, agreeing to build a house and set out an orchard, besides clearing up seventy acres. They had the privilege of using the whole quarter section. There were three families of them: the old folks, Jesse and Amelia; Naoma Pruett and husband, with family of two children; Thomas Moore and wife, with one child; and Joab, a single man. Jesse and his son Joab worked a half of the land, and Thomas and Stephen the other half. Thomas became the wealthiest man in Jackson township thirty years and more ago.

In 1829 came Michael and Elizabeth Pruett, hailing from the famous Blue Grass district of Kentucky, bringing their son Calvin with them. They bought land not far from Mansfield. His sons, Calvin, Cyrenus and James, with other children, spent their lives in this township. When the public school law was voted on in this county, Calvin Pruett was the only man to vote for it in his township. The voters hooted at him and called him "too advanced for this county" and he stood and voted alone, but it was not long before he was gratified at being vindicated by the passage of the law, the base of our present fine school system. Cyrenus Pruett was many years a township officer, including that of assessor. James Pruett faced the enemy's shot and shell during the Civil war, and spent fifty-two days in Andersonville prison-pen.

By 1830 there were possibly twenty-five families within Jackson township, as there were thirty-two votes cast at an election in that year. Among the pioneers were: Thomas W. Moore, Joseph Coombs, John Coombs, Mahalan Stark, James Pursley, Hugh Vinzant, Presley Tyler, John Young, Stephen Mannon, Samuel Johnson, Solomon Garrigus. In 1837, however, the dull times struck in and not for a number of years was there much immigration to this county, after which, though, it was redoubled. From 1865 to 1880 Jackson township made wonderful progress. The census of 1880 gave it as having 1,442 population. Its present population is 1,157. Its assessed valuation in 1912 is \$496,520.

#### VILLAGES OF JACKSON TOWNSHIP.

Lena and Mansfield are the only two villages within this township. The older of these is Mansfield. The log cabin of Mr. Kelsey must have been the beginning of what was then literally and truly a "man's-field," although in a very wild state. No finer mill-site was to be found anywhere in the country than at this point. The bed of the Big Raccoon creek is here a solid rock, affording an indestructible foundation for both a dam and a mill. A mill was constructed here about 1820, at least it must have been within a year or so either way from that date. Thomas Woolverton, who purchased land in Union township in 1820, helped to raise this mill, and he departed that year for Virginia, where he remained five years, then found the mill in operation upon his return. So few white men were present in the neighborhood that Indians were pressed into assisting in the "raising" of this mill. It was thirty feet square. Grist came here from a long distance. It was owned by several persons, including Kelsey & Dickson, Judge S. Gookins, of Terre Haute, and Gen. G. K. Steele, later falling into the hands of Jacob Rohm. It was torn down and another built on the old site in 1880.

Mr. Gookins laid out the village of Mansfield. A postoffice was established in 1825, the postmaster being Mr. Dickson and the mail came from Terre Haute. In 1829, G. K. Steele opened a store here; he became owner of the mill property in 1838, continuing in both store and mill until 1840. The first physicians here were Drs. Noffringer and Britts; then came Drs. Dailey and Farrow. The churches and schools of the village and township are treated under separate headings in other chapters.

In the history of Mansfield, the ladies of the village and county around performed one deed that should live in history. Prior to the war, and during that struggle, Mansfield was harboring slavery within her midst in the

form of intemperance. Rising in their majesty, they made open war upon the traffic, and with their own efforts rolled barrels of liquor into the streets and spilled the contents. Mrs. Samuel Johnston was one of the leaders in this whisky insurrection. The ladies were victorious, and Mansfield drew full inspirations of pure air. Later, another saloon was started in a building standing on the bank of the creek. One night some citizens hitched oxen to it and drew it over into the creek, whose waters did the rest! This wound up liquor selling, even in drug stores, for many a year.

#### VILLAGE OF LENA.

Lena, in the southeastern portion of Jackson township, was platted on section 35, in township 14, range 6, by Robert King in 1870. It sprung up as a station point along the Indianapolis & St. Louis railroad, and soon became a good shipping point for the immense quantities of lumber and staves cut from the surrounding forests. Adjoining the place on the south is Marysville, in Clay county, but both are now really one town. J. B. Cochran, sandwiched between the two places, is credited as having been the oldest resident in either place. He was the first merchant and postmaster, also first railroad agent and express agent. The first blacksmith was Thornton Wilson; William Girton the first shoemaker; Hasty & Sons were the first millers. Lena today has a population of about three hundred, and is a lively local trading point in the county. Dr. J. H. Rauch, of Chicago, a wealthy landowner and coal operator, passed several years at Lena, erected many buildings, improved the streets, graded roads, made brick, mined coal, and in many other ways was a promoter of the public good of the new village. A Masonic lodge was formed there in 1874.

While Jackson township had many disadvantages at an early day, and was accounted rather slow-growing for many decades, it has finally come to rank among the sister sub-divisions of Parke county, as being almost equal in prosperity to any other.

## CHAPTER XXII.

### LIBERTY TOWNSHIP.

Liberty is the northwestern township in Parke county. The Wabash river washes its western borders, Fountain county is on its north, while south and east its boundaries are Reserve and Star Creek townships. Its streams are Coal, Mill and Rush creeks, with their numerous tributaries, many of which, at an early day, furnished an abundance of waterpower for milling purposes. The township is one of the most thickly settled in the county, it having had a population, in 1880, of 1,774. The last enumeration (1910) gave it as 1,513. The 1880 assessed valuation was \$449,202 in real estate, while its personal property amounted as per assessed valuation to \$168,385, as against a total valuation of \$812,110 in 1912. Some of the finest grazing land in Parke county was reported by writers a third of a century ago. The bottom lands in the western part of the township are not excelled in all Indiana for the fertility of the soil and the annual production of immense crops of corn. Originally, Liberty township was composed of thirty-nine full and six fractional sections, but in the seventies sections 35 and 36 and the south halves of 25 and 26 were cut off to form a part of Penn township.

### PIONEER SETTLERS.

The first settlers in Liberty township were located in the northwest portion, and came in about 1821-1822, when Abe Timberman, William and Edward Brockway and Samuel Arnot came up the Wabash and pitched their tents in the vast, untried wilderness, while in 1825 David Shirk arrived, who, in addition to hewing out a farm from the forest, preached the gospel to the few settlers over that portion of Parke county, he being of the Baptist denomination. Early that year came also John Richmond and he was soon followed by the Burtons, who entered land on which Howard now stands. The settlers of 1823 included Jacob Bowsher and family, who located on Sugar creek, in section 25, at which time the Indians still occupied this part of the country, a village of one hundred and fifty wigwams standing on the land he chose. The chief of this band was John Cornstalk. They were, however, at this date, very friendly with the white settlers, never displeasing them



further than the occasional stealing of a calf or pig. While off on a hunting expedition, a young man named Steever set fire to and burned down their village. Upon their return the tribe of Indians went to putting on war paint, and asked Mr. Bowsher to tell them who had committed the deed, saying that in case he told them no harm would come to anyone but the guilty party. So, in defense of his neighbors and himself, he was compelled to tell the Indians who it was, but took care to send a boy to notify the Steever fellow of his action, so that he might make good his escape, which he did, after the Indians had chased him sixty or seventy miles. Soon after that these Indians were removed to their reservation, and after that only small parties were ever again seen in the township. Near this Indian village was a burying-ground, in which more than a hundred graves were found by the first white settlers. One, better cared for than the others, was believed to be that of a chief, and after the final removal of the Indians it was opened by Joseph Bowsher and other boys, who found a string of gold beads, a butcher knife and other relics.

In 1824 came Lawson Hoffman, settling in the southern part, when nineteen years of age. Joseph Thompson came four years later and at same time came Isaac Harvey. The first to effect settlement in what is known as the Rush Creek settlement, which was about 1830, was James Marks, who came from Kentucky and purchased a quarter section, where later his son George resided. After paying for his land at the land office, he had twelve and a half cents to begin the world on. John Osborn arrived the same year, and later came Isaac Weaver; then James Woody, who came in 1833, followed in 1834 by George Towell and George Marris, while Thomas, Jonathan, Lot and David Lindley arrived in 1832.

A tan yard was put in operation in 1836 by Harlan Harvey, of Warren county, Ohio, and was run by him and his partner, George Madden, who arrived in 1837, for sixteen years. In 1840 Mr. Madden laid out a nursery, which furnished fruit trees and ornamental shrubs for a wide scope of country. A greater part of these settlers were of the Friends religious faith and in 1832 a congregation was formed by them, by Isaac Hobson, David and Lot Lindley, and a few more. This, with other churches and schools, will be mentioned at length in chapters on these subjects. The first school house was built in 1830, and its first teacher was Isaac Hobson, who also kept a small store at his house on Rush creek. Another store was owned by a stock company, situated west of Rush Creek meeting house, in which W. Hadley officiated as a clerk. At that time prices ranged as follows: Calico fifty cents a yard; coffee, fifty cents a pound; salt, five dollars per barrel, while wages ran from twenty-five to forty cents a day for labor, and in harvest, with the

reaping-hook, thirty-seven and one-half cents per day was paid. Near the mouth of Sugar creek was the mill to which this settlement had to look for its milling advantages. That was operated by John Beard, an old man, who had arrived in the county at a very early day. A saw-mill, propelled by water power, was erected on Rush creek by a Mr. Reid, in 1826. At the same time there was a small corn cracker in the northwest part of the township, and a water mill in the extreme southern part. The first steam saw-mill was built in 1848, on section 16, by O. P. Davis, who with his partner, James Woody, conducted the mill many years and were successful in their operations and of great service to the pioneers.

About a mile east of the village of Howard is a graveyard, in which many of the early settlers are buried. It is situated on a large mound in Mill creek bottoms, and is supposed by many to have been the work of mound-builders. Such, however, is a mistake, as geologists have determined that it is but a natural drift of deposit made in the period when such formations were made in this section of America. It had been used as a burial place by the Indians, doubtless for centuries, as in digging graves numerous skeletons and detached bones are found; the remains usually found were those of persons who must have been from six feet six inches to seven feet in height. Others of smaller size were also found. A log school house was erected on the east side of this mound in 1835, and there many a good citizen of a later date received his education.

#### VILLAGES IN LIBERTY TOWNSHIP.

The villages within this township are: Waterman, Howard, Sylvania and Tangier. Waterman, in the northwest corner, was originally called Lodi, the name being changed in 1857, in honor of Dr. Waterman, who settled there that year and was an important factor, having opened a large general store and a pork-packing establishment. Here a large trade was carried on, as in all the early-day river towns, in shipping provisions, grain and other commodities to New Orleans, by water, on flat-boats. The salt well attracted much attention when the Wabash & Erie canal was opened, that, too, had great influence in reviving trade until that waterway was abandoned in the seventies, after which the town went almost to decay. In 1880 there was a large flouring mill erected by C. K. Bright and L. C. Davis. In 1880 the business of the place was confined to a drug store, one dry goods store, a grocery, a blacksmith shop, a saw-mill and two physicians. There is but little there today to mark the former fond hopes entertained by its citizens of the

fifties and seventies. A Masonic lodge was instituted there in 1855, called Lodiville Lodge No. 172.

Howard, formerly called Westport, is situated on the Wabash river, and was laid out in 1827 on land owned by J. and J. Burton, who built a house there and opened the first store in the vicinity, probably in the township. The place grew rapidly and numerous business houses were erected, among the heaviest operators being James H. Beadle and Harlan Harvey, who shipped grain and pork to New Orleans and southern points generally. After the canal was opened business greatly increased, there being at one time two large dry goods stores, two grain warehouses, and numerous stores and work-shops. Thirty-three years ago all had gone—no trace of business enterprise was left, save the bed of the old canal and the decaying timbers of an occasional old warehouse. The churches and schools are mentioned elsewhere. The name is no longer listed on the maps of Indiana.

Sylvania, one of the sprightly villages of Parke county forty years ago, is located on the northwest quarter of section 14, and is younger than either Howard or Waterman. The first to embark in business here was Henry Durham, who opened his blacksmith shop. Following him were Atkinson and M. Stout, who each opened stores. Durham sold to Gillum Brothers. In 1880 a Masonic lodge was organized at Sylvania. Churches and schools are mentioned elsewhere, under general chapter headings. At one time there were factories making broom handles, tile, picket fencing, bee-hives and a wagon shop. For many years it has been a station point on the Chicago & Eastern Illinois railroad. While other towns and hamlets draw from its trade, yet a considerable business is carried on at that point.

Tangier was platted later, just to the north of Sylvania. This is one of the modern railroad points of this county and is a convenience to a large number of farmers in that section of the county. It was platted by William B. Swaine and Edmund Lindley, March 13, 1886, on section 15, township 17, range 8. It now has a population of about three hundred.

## CHAPTER XXIII.

### PENN TOWNSHIP.

Penn township is situated in the north-central portion of Parke county. It was the latest township formed, its organization taking place in 1854, its territory being set off from parts of Liberty, Reserve and Sugar Creek townships, and is formed in the shape of a letter "T". It contains twenty-one full and five half sections. It is bounded on the north by Liberty and Sugar Creek townships, Howard and Washington on the east, Adams and Reserve on the south and Liberty and Reserve on the west. In 1880 the assessed valuation of all property in this township was reported as \$655,065, as against \$617,775 in 1912. In 1880 it was fourth in population of the townships in this county, and today is, according to the federal census of 1910, 1,393.

The soil in Penn township is a rich clay loam, which produces large crops of wheat and grain of all kinds. Drainage is excellent and the rural scenes of today are a feast to the admirer of pretty and highly cultivated farms. The land on either side of Sugar creek, in the north part, is hilly and picturesque in the extreme. Rock Hollow and other favorite resorts for tourists are here found. Sugar creek, Leatherwood, Roaring creek, all are included in the streams of the territory. From an early day, mills and factories have been built along these streams. The gravel road from Rockville to Annapolis greatly improved this township, as did the construction of the Indianapolis, Danville & Southern railroad, which has for a station point the village of Bloomingdale. This portion of Parke county was originally largely of the Quaker, or Society of Friends, religious faith. North Carolina furnished most of the pioneers. That was no desirable home for people of this sterling faith; they never believed in slavery and would not vote and act with the slave-holding element of the South, hence sought new homes in a strange land. The act of 1787 declared that the Northwest Territory should be free, and for this reason, together with the natural advantages, many of the Friends located in Indiana and many came to Parke county. Among the first of this sect to locate here was Perley Mitchell, who came about 1823, and was soon followed by the Tenbrooks, the largest number of these people coming in 1824-5. In 1829 came John Woody and sons, James and Thomas. Others



were Joseph Finney, James Nelson, Stephen Kersey, William Hunt and Eli and James McDaniel.

#### VILLAGES.

About 1825-6 the village of Annapolis was first settled, and it was not long before the ground was cleared off by William Maris and John Moulder. About the same date Bloomingdale (then called Bloomfield) was originated. Both places could not, of necessity, succeed, and efforts were made to unite the two and locate a town on neutral ground, but this failed, Annapolis refusing to leave her first choice. A few years after laying off the village the first store was opened by Thomas Woody, the next being started by a company consisting of William Marvis, John Moulder and Aaron Maris. Either John Moulder or William Holliday was the first postmaster. In 1880 the business interests of the place consisted of two dry goods stores and a grocery, one drug store, two blacksmith shops, one harness shop, a pump factory, saw and planing-mill, a pottery, and a few lesser institutions. For churches and schools see other chapters. The village now has about two hundred population.

Bloomingdale, or Bloomfield as first named, was platted in 1825, or 1826, south of the present site of the village, where the first store was opened in a log house by William Pickard, his son John opening a drug store, it being through the efforts of the latter that the town was begun. But Annapolis for a time took away all the trade from this place, until times changed conditions in the community, after which Bloomingdale overtook and even greatly surpassed her rival at the north. The gravel road was constructed in 1864, and that aided the place materially. Then the building of the railroad through the township in 1873, a short distance to the north, helped Bloomingdale immensely.

Of the once famous Bloomingdale Academy, the reader is referred to Prof. Linebarger's article on the schools of Parke county. This forms an important item in the history of this county, wielding as it did great influence in this section of Indiana for many years. Bloomingdale now has a population of about five hundred and twenty-five people.

#### EARLY-DAY INDUSTRIES.

The men and women who first dared to invade this section met with much to dishearten those not possessing stout hearts and strong arms. Work for both was the order of the day, which meant half the night as well. Cloth-

ing all had to be prepared and made from home-made goods. The busy house-wife then found little time to spin "yarns" as gossiping women do now-a-days. The yarns they spun were of a better, more useful variety. The people then carded and spun their own wool by hand, the cards being fastened to two pieces of board a foot long and five inches wide, with handles in the center. The wool was put on one of them with the hand, and when carded enough the back was used to take off the roll. It was about 1825, when Perley Mitchell started his carding machine, and it was not long before several others were in operation. The machines in use at that time were similar to those used today. The rolls were about two feet long, and when carded were rolled up in a sheet or blanket, being pinned together with thorns, and weighed from ten to forty pounds. They were usually carried home on a horse in front of the rider, then spun on what was known as the "big wheel." From twelve to forty cuts was a day's stint, and the pay for spinning warp was sixteen and two-thirds cents; for filling, a shilling per dozen cuts, and for carding rolls, with machinery, ten to twelve cents per pound. The wages paid for weaving were, for plain, ten cents a yard; for twilled, twelve and a half cents, from three to five yards being a good day's work. Two hands with machinery, could easily card and spin one hundred dozens per day of coarse yarn as was used at that time, and one girl with a power loom could weave from thirty to sixty yards per day. Every woman understood the art of dyeing all colors perfectly, excepting blue, which was more difficult to manage and was governed by luck or the sign. The colors were obtained from various barks, those chiefly used being walnut, which produced a favorite, fashionable color of brown goods; yellow, from black oak bark, and swamp ash for drab. Unless a girl could do all these kinds of work she was not considered "bright" enough for marriage.

About 1834, Mahlon Reynolds erected his fulling-mill, in partnership with Jerry Siler, on section 23, on Leatherwood creek. The machinery consisted of a shearing machine, press plate, screw press papers, and copper dye kettle, which would contain about sixty gallons, having been brought from Dayton, Ohio, a special trip having been made there by Todd Mazwell, with a huge two-horse wagon, to purchase them, and who later rented the mill and conducted it for several years. This fulling-mill was run by water power, and the shearing machine by hand. The following prices obtained: Fulling, coloring and dressing the cloth, twenty-five cents per yard; without dressing, twenty cents; coloring and scouring flannel, ten cents; coloring and fulling jeans, ten cents. For several years the dye stuffs were hauled in wagons to the mill from Dayton, Ohio.

About 1827, Simon Rubottom erected the first grist-mill in the township on Leatherwood creek, on section 23, the millwright being an old man named Antony. The machinery consisted of an under-shot water-wheel and one run of stones, or "nigger-heads," each burr being a single stone. The bolt was a single reel, twelve feet long, inclosed in a chest, and was operated by hand. The flour, middlings and shorts, all fell into this chest, the bran coming out at the end. The miller separated the flour, middlings and shorts with a wooden shovel, the former afterwards being carried up stairs in a half bushel measure to the bolting hopper. The building was a rough affair, constructed of logs, without chinking or daubing, and no floor except a little around the hopper. When a fire was needed it was made on the ground, and the smoke allowed to escape through the cracks.

The first saw-mill in this neighborhood was that of Perley Mitchell, on Leatherwood creek, in 1826; the next by Isaiah Pemberton, in 1828, a half mile up the same stream. On account of bad engineering, later it was discovered that the work was useless, as there was not fall enough to drive the machinery, when it was torn down and moved to the other side of the creek, by William Pearson, in 1829. In 1831, Adam Siler built a mill a half mile above the last named, which could be run about half the year. Two of these mills failed entirely in 1845; that of Pearson was kept sawing until 1862. From five to eight hundred feet of lumber was a day's cut. Sometimes they run all night through, and on Sunday as well. Saw logs were generally hauled during the winter on sleds drawn by oxen. When horses were used, the simplest harness was employed, consisting of shuck collars and rope harness, entirely destitute of iron, save the bridle-bits. "Log-chains" were made from large rope twisted together. The sawing rates were twenty-five cents per hundred feet for poplar and thirty-seven and a half cents for hard timbers. Lumber sold at the mill from fifty to seventy cents per hundred feet, and had dull sale at that, until the prairies west of the Wabash began to be settled up, when large quantities were demanded. The first steam saw-mill was that of Jeremiah Siler, a fourth of a mile south of Bloomingdale, about 1860.

In 1848 another mill was built at Devil's Den, on Sugar creek, in section 36, by Prior Wright, whose store at the Narrows had been washed away by the high water of the year before.

In 1837 William G. Coffin erected a foundry on Leatherwood creek, two and a half miles northwest of Bloomingdale, where he made the first cast plow used in this part of Indiana. Owing to its weight and clumsiness, it was never popular and was soon driven out of the markets.

## FLAT-BOAT BUILDING.

One of the biggest industries, however, was that of constructing flat-boats. John M. Kelly gave the following, in substance, concerning this enterprise, which runs as follows:

"The first flat-boat was built in the winter of 1833-4 at the Narrows of Sugar creek, and immediately afterward at Coxy's boat yard, three miles away. The next established was Campbell's and Tenbrook's, at what is now known as Rockport Mill, then called Devil's Den. A few years later the business was carried on extensively at Jessup's Mill on Mill creek, at Coffin's boat yard, where the old foundry stood, and at several points above the narrows of Sugar creek. John Kelly engaged in the business in 1833 at Coxy's boat yard, the usual dimensions of boats being sixty feet long and sixteen feet wide. He was advised by old boat-builders not to exceed that size on account of the danger and difficulty of getting them out of Sugar creek, it being a crooked and very rapid stream. This advice coming from men older, and of more experience than himself, he accepted as sound doctrine, until his own experience taught him different. Mr. Kelly stated that the most difficult boat to manage he ever handled was fifty feet long and twelve feet in width, while the easiest one was eighty-five feet long by eighteen in width. About the average price of a boat sixty feet long, delivered in the Wabash, was one hundred dollars, the size of the gunnels to secure a ready sale being thirty inches at the bow-rake, which was the largest part and ten inches thick. A tree suitable for gunnels used to cost from one to five dollars according to distance from the yard, the tree being split into the necessary size where felled and the gunnel logs hauled by oxen to the boat-yard. When the boat was framed and ready for the bottom, the planks are fastened in their places with wooden pins, it requiring from ten to twelve hundred of them to complete the job. It requires seven thousand feet of lumber to build a sixty-foot flat-boat and this must be all first class, as there is no place for inferior lumber, save in the false floor. From twelve to twenty pounds of hemp are required to calk a boat of this size, after which the vessel was ready for launching. The boats were built from three to four feet above the gunnel and sided up with two-inch plank, the same as the bottom, the roof, which had a pitch of sixteen inches, being covered with five-eighth-inch boards. The vessels were run out of the creek with two oars, one at the bow and one at the stern, none being used on the side while in the creek, except upon going over dams when the water was low, when it was necessary to get up



as much headway as possible, that being the safest method. The steering oar is made of the same length as the boat, and so constructed as to balance in the middle. The steersman stands, or rather walks, on a bridge in the center of the vessel, so that by the time he reached New Orleans he would walk a great many miles, from one side of the craft to the other, while steering her on her course. At the date of the first construction of flat boats here, the cargo consisted entirely of corn and pork, but a few years later crates of wheat, flour, lumber, staves, hoop-poles, potatoes, poultry and even live hogs became common. The amount of ear corn which a sixty-foot boat would carry was one thousand eight hundred bushels, but there was a constantly increasing demand for larger boats and before the business went out of existence boats were built which would carry double that amount."

## CHAPTER XXIV.

### RESERVE TOWNSHIP.

This township derived its name from its having been a part of the Indian reservation, which consisted of a strip of territory on the Wabash river, seven miles in width, extending from the mouth of Sugar creek to the mouth of the Raccoon. It comprises twenty-two full and five fractional sections, and originally contained a large portion of what is now Penn township. Its western boundary being the Wabash river, its territory early attracted the attention of pioneers going up and down the river in search of homes. Liberty township is to its north, Penn on the east and south is Wabash township. A third of a century ago and more this township was noted for having the largest farms and some of the best in the county. Except the draws and rough land along Sugar creek, the entire township is fitted for successful agriculture, and has come to be highly improved and well cultivated by men who, knowing the producing qualities of the fertile soil, hold their lands at a very high figure. Eastward from the Wabash river there is a strip of over two miles in width, extending back to the bluffs, which was originally covered with the finest kind of heavy timber. The assessed valuation of the personal and real property in this township in 1912 as shown by the county records was \$718,235. Its population in 1910 was 2,224. Of the schools, churches and lodges, see chapters of a general county nature within this volume.

### EARLY SETTLEMENT.

Ohio furnished many of the first settlers for this section of Indiana, who, having been pioneers in that state, knew full well how to subdue another wilderness and cause it to blossom like the rose. North Carolina also furnished many more, a greater portion of whom were of the Society of Friends, and this people left their moral and Christian impress upon the township. The Indians, knowing full well what sort of men and women they had to cope with, made the pioneers their friends. The first to come into what is Reserve township to make a permanent settlement were the Linebargers, in 1822, the next being John Beard, who erected the first mill on Sugar creek in that year, the Browns, Mellikins and Jorias Horgar, immigrating at the same time. In

the southeastern part, in 1825, came Puett and Charles Burton. In 1826 Solomon Allen arrived, the other early settlers being Warren Davis, Daniel Wickersham, the Morris family, Isaac Pemberton, Peyton Wilson, Abraham Halliday, Jeremiah Siler and others. Another settlement was that at Montezuma, those in the van being Whitlock, Majors, Joseph Hayes, Webster and Feeney, who arrived about 1823 or 1824. William and Thomas Cook, James and Samuel Hill, Aquilla Justin, John Shook and Chatsworth also arrived at an early day. Immigration soon rapidly increased and poured a steady, strong current into the heart of the wild forests, which soon heard the sound of the woodsman's axe and the land where for centuries had stood the stately trees was turned into grain and corn fields. The leveling of the forests also created another paying industry, that of lumbering and milling. John Beard erected the first mill, the simple corn-cracker of which was put in operation in 1822. It stood at what is now known as West Union. It was a log structure and the grinding arrangement consisted principally of nigger-head burrs, which, if sharp and newly dressed, would grind grain to the amount of about three bushels per hour. When the pioneer wanted wheat flour he had to go to Roseville, where the nearest flouring mill was situated. In 1826 Solomon Lusk erected a mill at the Narrows, and in 1827 Simon Rubbottom built one on Leatherwood creek, and in the same year another mill was put up near Armiesburg, after which the settlers had milling nearer home. The implements used at an early day were of rude construction, and the following description, written many years since, will give the reader an idea of their character in general: Of course the axe was first in importance and was used for many mechanical purposes. It was designed for practical everyday use, more for what it would do than for its beauty or ornamentation. The Carey plow, the most generally in use, was a rude affair, having a wrought iron share and a wooden mould-board. This was succeeded in 1839 by the cast-iron plow made by W. G. Coffin at his foundry, two or three miles northwest of Bloomingdale. This implement was, however, so clumsy and heavy that it never amounted to much for practical use. Then came the Peacock plow, which had a cast mould-board and a wrought iron share. It was made at Cincinnati and superseded all others. Five years later the Richmond steel plow appeared on the markets and came into favor among the farmers. The fields of the pioneer were not large, hence the crops were not heavy to plant or cultivate. There being no markets for several years there was no incentive to grow much more than home consumption demanded. The flail was the implement first used in threshing out the grain harvested, but was soon exchanged for that better method of securing the wheat, that

of treading out by horses or oxen tramping the grain, after which the chaff was blown out by means of the wind, or by a sheet in the hands of two persons, making an improvised "fan." The earliest threshing machine in Reserve township was about 1840, owned by Elsberry Jinnet, and was a very incomplete affair, threshing from fifty to one hundred bushels per day, and delivering the grain and chaff together, later to be separated with a fan. A two-horse tread-power was employed to run this machine. Soon the four-horse Ground Hog machine came into use, and as the years went by improved machines were invented.

The mowing scythe, hand-rake and wooden pitchfork were the implements of hay and harvest, the latter often being a forked sapling with its rough prongs sharpened. The grain scoop was not known for several years. In cribbing corn it was either thrown with the hands or pushed out of the end of the wagon with the feet. The first scoop made in the township was made of wood, and owned by John Fortner. In about 1838 iron scoops came into common use.

On account of this township being reserve land, it was not opened up to the public as soon as that in other parts of the county. Game of all kinds remained here some time after the animals had been driven from other settlements. Black bear could be found occasionally after the arrival of the first settlers; in fact, in 1827 Solomon Allen killed one in his door yard. Deer were seen in large droves and furnished the settlers with an abundance of good meat, while their skins were used for a number of practical purposes. Wild turkeys were formerly very abundant, while ducks and geese were numberless. The raccoon, opossum, fox, mink, otter, wolf, muskrat, weasels and other fur-bearing animals were found in large numbers.

Flat-boating was largely carried on from this part of the county, such vessels being the only means of conveyance and transportation of produce to markets, and the building and manning of these crude crafts gave employment to many men. A boat-yard was situated near the mouth of Rush creek at a very early date, and at several points on Sugar creek, as noted in the history of Penn township.

The first school in this township was in the Linebarger settlement in 1824. The first birth was that of Joseph Allen, in 1827, and the first recorded death was Solomon Allen's infant, about the year 1827. The first wedding was that uniting Jeremiah Morris and Mary Ann Lewis. The arrival of Mr. Allen in the country was quite a help to the settlement, as he was a wheelwright and cabinet-maker, and made coffins, for which he received from twenty-five cents to three dollars each. After paying for his land, after



coming in, he had eighty-seven cents left to begin home-building with. On finishing his cabin he immediately seasoned lumber, from which he constructed tubs, buckets and other articles of domestic use, the proceeds from the sale of which enabled him to live until he got a few acres cleared up, and then raised a crop. The second season of his residence here he spent seventy-two days assisting his neighbors in log rolling and raising cabins and barns.

#### TOWNS AND VILLAGES.

Montezuma and Coloma are the two town plattings within this township around which clusters some of the interesting history of this subdivision of Parke county. Montezuma is situated in the southwest corner of Reserve township, on the east bank of the Wabash river, and was a place of early-day importance in this section of Indiana, when the Wabash river and the old Wabash & Erie canal were the great water-ways and outlets to the outside markets. The town was laid off by Whitlock and Majors about 1824, and a larger platting effected in canal days by Ambrose Whitlock, July 20, 1849, on sections 25, 26, 35 and 36, township 16, range 9. The first store was opened by Joseph M. Hayes; the next by Nesmith, whose stock, it is related, consisted of two bolts of calico and a barrel of whisky. The third store was Feeney's. The first justice of the peace was Mr. Chatsworth, and the first physician was Dr. Samuel Hill, who arrived at an early day. The first frame house, and which was standing about thirty years ago, or possibly later, was built by Mr. Webster. It should be remembered that the Wabash river towns of that long ago day consisted of Montezuma, Covington, Portland, Attica, Williamsport, LaGrange and Lafayette, and a spirited rivalry was on between these points for the supremacy. As river towns they all were equally situated as to commercial importance and for years it was hard to tell which would finally terminate in a city of goodly proportions. Keel-boats and pirogues touched all of these landings and the same pioneer steamboats did carrying trade for each. Eventually, Lafayette obtained and kept the prize, it having secured a railroad before the other towns. However, upon the completion of the Wabash & Erie canal in 1850, Montezuma took on a new life and up to 1860 was the most prosperous period it had ever experienced. Business of all kinds, for all this section of country on both sides the river, was carried forward in good and enterprising shape. The business of closing the canal, effected about 1873, sounded a death knell to many industries at Montezuma, but the building of the Decatur, Indianapolis & Springfield railroad, in that year, brought new hope to the citizens of the river town,

for here a station was established and the company erected their shops there. Since then the town has gone along in its quiet manner, ebbing and falling like the ocean's tide, some decades being better than others, but never reaching the once fancied greatness it hoped to attain to. In 1880 the town had a large flouring-mill, four grain warehouses, two saw-mills, one planing-mill, a packing and slaughter house, two dry goods stores, two drug stores, six groceries, one clothing store, one hotel, a livery, agricultural implement warehouse and two saloons. Its population then numbered about 700, and that of the township was 1,550. The 1910 census gave Montezuma a population of 1,537, and Reserve township was given as 2,224. In 1880 the assessed valuation of Montezuma corporation was in personal property, \$105,075, and of real estate, \$123,060, while the township had \$456,466. Today (1912) the valuation of real and personal property in Montezuma is \$420,888, and in the township a total of \$718,235.

In 1880, the railroad repair shops were burned and many men thrown out of employment, which tended to injure the growth of the place.

Disastrous fires, too, have played their part in hindering the growth of Montezuma. Among these was that of 1907, which destroyed the newly built Sanitarium hotel, a mineral water resort of modern type, with more than forty elegant rooms and all modern fixtures. The artesian well furnished a superior water to many of the well-known and successful health resorts of the country. The property on which flows the artesian water is owned by, at least controlled, by William Montgomery.

The old flouring-mill, after many years, was converted into a cob-grinding mill, which when it was doing a good business, in 1909, was also burned and never rebuilt. To the east of town a few miles is located one of the largest brick-making plants in the state. It is known as the Marion Brick Works.

#### BUSINESS INTERESTS OF 1912.

At present Montezuma has the following interests:

The First National Bank, Citizens Bank.

*Montezuma Enterprise*, C. S. Overman.

Postmistress, Emma Powell.

Hotel, D. I. Dunlap.

General stores—J. E. Johnson & Co., William H. King, Kemp Bros., W. B. Pawley, M. Watson.

Hardware—Cornwell & Spencer

Drugs—A. B. Powell, F. S. Stebbins.

Harness—Charles Fortner.  
 Clothing—Harry Reeder.  
 Elevator—Rohm Bros.  
 Feed mill—George Mathas.  
 Cement blocks—William Carty and Wallace Dietz, contractors.  
 Lumber—Montezuma Lumber Company.  
 Furniture—Hugh Montgomery & Company.  
 Restaurants—Alexander Leslie, John Gilmore.  
 Tin Shop and Sheet Metals—I. A. Sharp.  
 Livery—Cheesewright & Machin, D. M. Scott.  
 Blacksmiths—Richard McIntosh, H. Webster, H. Welchans.  
 Meats—A. B. Jones, W. P. Pawley, H. Aikman.  
 Physicians—Mrs. R. L. Dooley, J. C. Reeder, O. A. Newhouse.  
 Veterinary Surgeon—Dr. Back.  
 Carpet factory—S. Case.  
 Automobile Garage—Pitman & Co.  
 Gravel companies—Three in number.  
 Saloons—Four in number.  
 Barbershops—Three in number.  
 Transfer company—H. Reirdan.  
 Dental Surgeon—One.  
 Photograph gallery—One.  
 Jewelry—One.  
 Machine shop—A. E. Higbee.  
 Newspaper—*The Enterprise*.

#### VILLAGE CORPORATION.

The history of the corporations here dates back to a very early date. The 1912 officers are: President, William Whitson; members, H. D. Coffin, Fred Dicken, Dr. B. F. Hudson, George Mathas; treasurer, Joseph Taylor; clerk, O. N. Henderson; marshal, N. S. Wheeler.

In 1906 an electric light plant was installed, the power coming from and furnished by the Burns & Hancock brick plant on the west side of the Wabash river. It has been a success and the forty street lights are now no expense to the town, as the plant is more than self-sustaining, and it is designed, as soon as possible, to erect new works in the town proper and add water works, making a combined plant.

The churches of Montezuma are: The Methodist, Presbyterian, Christian, United Brethren, Holiness and the Catholic.

The lodges are Masonic, Odd Fellows and Knights of Pythias.

#### COLOMA.

Coloma is a small hamlet situated on sections 33 and 34, of Reserve township. Its population is about two hundred. It is located on Rocky run, and was laid out in 1876, but was located in 1864, when William Lewis opened a store there. M. Morris purchased this store, and was appointed the first postmaster. For many years William P. Musgrave conducted the only store of the place. Rocky Run Friends church was located at this point many years since. This village serves well the surrounding community in which it is pleasantly situated.



## CHAPTER XXV.

### RACCOON TOWNSHIP.

The Indians called the two streams now known as Big and Little Raccoon creeks, "Big and Little Coon." These streams both cross this township and hence its name. The township, which is six miles square and contains twenty thousand and forty acres, is situated in the southern tier of townships. The land was once densely covered by a forest of giant trees, which had to be cut down before the surface was suited for farming; this was a great task, but was finally accomplished by the sturdy pioneers' axe. In the Raccoon bottoms the land is composed of a rich alluvial soil, yielding large crops of corn and wheat. Other parts of this township are not so fertile and productive, but since draining has been made, and several marshes reclaimed, there is much good land outside the bottoms. What is known as the "Ten O'Clock Line," which divides the old and new purchases, crosses this township from sections 6 to 36.

### EARLY DAYS.

Just who was the first person to actually settle in this township is not fully established. James Kerr and Dempsey Seybold came into the township and selected lands in 1816, but there seems no authority showing that any permanent settlement was effected until 1818, when Dempsey Seybold came with his family from Kentucky, and settled on section 20, later known as the Jeffries property. Mr. Seybold brought his wife and at least one child, Thomas K., born in 1816, who afterwards married and became the father of a family, among whom were W. H. H. Dempsey, C. John and James H., all well known settlers of Raccoon township in later years. It is certain that Mr. Seybold was the second settler in this township north of the Big Raccoon creek, there being only one other in the vicinity at the time, and only three families in Parke county north of the Big Raccoon. Mr. Seybold became influential and was one of the men who helped to locate the county seat and court house square of Vigo county, in Terre Haute. He later served as judge of the court as an associate judge. He died on June 3, 1835, leaving at least two sons, Thomas K. and Dempsey. Thomas K. was murdered at Terre Haute, April 9, 1850, and the hand that perpetrated the crime was not known

for several years, when at last a man from Illinois, on his death-bed, confessed the deed. Before the Seybolds could reach the sick man death had removed the criminal, so that the mystery was never fully understood. About the time last mentioned, came in the Mitchells. William D. Mitchell was born in Raccoon township February 22, 1818. The Millers settled here either 1818 or 1819, for John B. Miller was born here August 25, 1819. It is said that the first log cabin built in the township was by one Richardson. Other settlers in 1818-19 were the Adamses, Samuel, Sr., William, Andrew, James, John and Samuel Adams, also William Nevins and possibly a few more. In 1819 Nathaniel Bliss Kalley, then nineteen years of age, came from Ohio to Raccoon township and leased a farm from David Hansel. There were not enough men in the community to raise Dickson's mill, so Indians were pressed into such work. With Indian Bill, Nathaniel Kalley used to sport in wrestling matches. He raised a crop of corn and then returned to Ohio and in 1821 or 1822 returned with his father and mother, and family of wife and one child, Ruth, he having been married to Rebecca Hansel in Ohio. He rented till 1831, when he entered the west half of the northeast quarter of section 11, township 14, range 7. His patent was signed by Andrew Jackson, President of the United States. He was one of the township's best and most stirring men. His father, David, entered one hundred and twenty acres east of Nathaniel's, where he spent the remainder of his years. At about this time, and very soon thereafter, came in Jacob Bell, John Blue, John Morrow, James Barnes, John Robinson, Joseph Ralston, John Prince and Vincent Jackman.

In 1820 William Rea, father of the first clerk of Parke county, came, in company with James Boyd and James Fannin, from Chillicothe, Ohio, and settled on the southwest quarter of section 7, in Raccoon township, and there erected a log cabin, which still stood thirty years ago, having always served as a comfortable dwelling house. He was the first to locate on the Little Raccoon. Either in the autumn of 1821 or the spring of 1822, John Sunderland, Sr., and son, John, Jr., came from Ohio and located on the northeast quarter of section 6, and a son-in-law of Mr. Sunderland, Henry Green, settled on the east half of the northwest quarter of section 5. In the fall of 1820 Thomas Gilkinson, in company with James Buchanan, came to what is now Raccoon township and entered their land. In the spring of 1821 Thomas Gilkinson came in and took land in the southwest quarter of section 5, built a cabin, cleared off a few acres and tended his crop of corn, and in the fall of that year brought his wife and five children from Kentucky and settled in what

was then a wilderness of wood and wild animals. In 1821 Jephtha Garrigus moved to Raccoon township, bringing his family in a boat down the Ohio river, up the Wabash and Big Raccoon, into the southwest part of Raccoon township, where he settled. Jephtha is supposed to have brought the first rats to this region among his articles of freight. He had thirteen children, and had served as a colonel in the war of 1812. When he was married, at his request the following marriage ceremony took place: "I, Tobias Miller, justice of the peace for the county of Parke, do hereby certify that Jephtha Garrigus and Polly Kratdzer are joined together in marriage as long as they could agree, by me this October 24, 1834. John G. Danis, clerk."

About this time there were three separate settlements in Raccoon township: The Bell and Garrigus settlement, in the southern part; the settlement around "Sodom," so called on account of its distillery and the general wickedness of the place; it is now Bridgeton; and the settlement in the northwestern part, known as the Pleasant Valley settlement.

From 1820 to 1830 prominent among the newcomers were James Hopper, the Hartmans, Charles Beacham, Samuel Crooks, William Rea and Robert Martin. These early settlers were men of sturdy, honest yeomanry of the Eastern and Southern states, who desired free and independent homes of their own. Indeed, through all those long years of hardships, they were building far better than they knew, and their children and children's children are now reaping the reward of those pioneer years on the part of those early-day toilers and builders.

#### MILLING.

The Lockwood mills, later known as the Bridgeton mills, were built by Lockwood and Ailliman about 1823, but owned by Oniel and Wasson. Daniel Kalley later owned the mill site. It changed hands several times and finally burned down. The next fall the records runs that "the people got up a frolic, got out logs and built a new mill." It was run till 1869 and burned again, but replaced by a large frame structure, four stories high, costing fourteen thousand dollars.

The first saw-mill on Little Raccoon was built by Thomas Gilkinson in

#### VILLAGES OF THE TOWNSHIP.

Catlin, Bridgeton and Diamond are the three platted villages within Raccoon township. Away back in the early years, when the surrounding country was little else than a wilderness, and the old stage routes connected the prin-

incipal points of civilization, there began on the banks of the Big Raccoon what is now the sprightly prosperous town of Bridgeton. The start was the erection of a mill that cracked corn. This was about 1821. Nathaniel Smock opened a store, and later a distillery started up and was operated many years. This made a bad neighborhood which many years ago reformed and is no longer known as it was once, as "Sodom." Mulligan & Ketchum also handled general merchandise at this point, and sold to Mr. Searing. The town was then platted and Smock & McFarland were the leading merchants. In 1856 Dr. James Crooks settled in Bridgeton. His father was William B. Crooks, the first physician in Raccoon township. Milk-sickness was an awfully dreaded disorder of early days, and Dr. Crooks seemed to have a fair specific for it and was very successful in treating his scores of patients.

The location of Bridgeton is section 22, township 14, range 7 west. It was platted by James and Mary Searing, March 27, 1857, and was named from the bridge across the Big Raccoon at that point. In 1880 it had one hundred and twenty population, but now has two hundred and twenty-five.

Catlin is a station point on the Vandalia railroad. It took its origin from the fact that the railroad ran through that part of the township and in the early years of the Civil war, Hiram Catlin, a Mr. Montgomery and Henry Miller owning the land, it was thought best to start a town and shipping point. Hence Mr. Catlin erected a grain warehouse there, he having for a partner in his enterprise Thomas Harshman. They bought grain and carried a small stock of general merchandise. In 1861 a blacksmith shop was built by James Sanderson, and Joseph Terry built a wagon shop. The early growth of Catlin was due largely to the enterprise of James Ray, who came from Ohio to Vigo county in 1820, and to Catlin in 1861. In 1862 he erected his saw-mill, and in 1865 a good grist-mill. He also built a store room, with a public hall above. In all he built seven of the best early-day buildings in the hamlet. A postoffice was secured in 1862, and Thomas Catlin was appointed postmaster by President Lincoln. For many years Catlin was the chief depot for the extensive stave trade of this community, and the material was supplied by two saw-mills near by, Hamilton's and Wakefield's.

Today Catlin is a good town, with many excellent business houses and tasty residences. Its population is less than two hundred. The schools, churches and lodges of this town, as well as all others in the county, are treated under separate headings.

The population of the township in 1910 was 1,702. The total assessed valuation of property in Raccoon township in 1912 is \$958,720.



At Catlin is the great Standard oil pumping station, with its large tanks. This company pays taxes on \$100,000 worth of property in Parke county.

The village of Diamond, in this township, was the outgrowth of the large coal mining interests of that section of Parke county. It was platted on section 34, township 14, range 7, December 10, 1893, by the Brazil Block Coal Company. It became a prosperous town and all the common branches of business were carried on successfully so long as the mines were running in full blast, but because of decline in the mining interests, trouble with labor and capital and other causes, the town is not as good as formerly. Its population in 1910 was placed by the census bureau at 1,007, which has materially decreased and the corporation of the town has applied to be annulled and it will be assessed and cared for under the old township government after 1912.

## CHAPTER XXVI.

### SUGAR CREEK TOWNSHIP.

In the north central portion of Parke county is Sugar Creek township. It is on the north line of the county, west of Howard, north of Penn, and east of Liberty township. It was originally a part of Howard township, but later a part of Penn township; it was divided in 1855, and now contains twenty-three full and five fractional sections. The topography of this part of Parke county is very rough and hilly, but even these hilly lands are valuable, as they afford a wonderful grazing tract and as such have yielded millions of dollars worth of stock and wool to the owners. Greene, Brush, Mill and Sugar creeks and numerous branches flow through this township, having in years gone by furnished splendid power for the mills located along their banks. In 1912 the total personal and real estate valuation, according to the county records for this township, was \$354,395. Its population in 1910 was placed at 680.

The first settlement has about all been recited, so far as interest is concerned today, in giving the establishment of the first mills, etc. In 1826, at the narrows of Sugar creek, was built the first mill in this part of the county, by Solomon Lusk. He cut and blasted the mill-race through the rock and erected a large mill, making a good grade of flour. He also established a pork packing house, and shipped large amounts of grain, pork and flour to points as far south as New Orleans. He sent as many as twenty flat-boats to that gulf port annually. At the same place, in 1830, Prior Wright opened the first store in the township, which, along with the mill and other valuable holdings, were all swept down the stream by the floods on New Year's morning, 1847. In the north part of the township the settlers commenced to pour in by 1827, among the first being David Allen, T. Poplit, John Summers, Daniel Myers, Thomas Ratcliffe, Walter Clark, Jesse Barker, John and Thomas Cachatt and Esquire Moore. In the southern part came in Joseph Thompson, Elisha Heath, William Floyd, William Jenkins, James Bacus, William Cox and Zimri Hunt.

The second mill was built on Mill creek, on the later site of Russell's mills, by Joseph Thompson in 1829, the dam being formed by felling a large

poplar tree which stood on the bank of the stream, and letting it fall across the stream. This dam lasted for twenty years. The original mill was a small affair, in a log house, in which corn was cracked by a pair of nigger-head stones, the grain when ground being bolted by hand, the water-power bolting machine being an improvement put in later. Thomas Cachatt operated this mill until his death, in 1842, when it was sold to Jerry Kemp, and later still it was owned by Joe Russell. In the seventies this mill was refitted and converted into a steam mill, with water power when there was a sufficient flow.

Wilkins' mill, on Mill creek, was erected by Jessup & Hunt in 1835, first as a saw-mill, then changed to a saw and carding-mill, and still later with a corn cracking mill. In 1852 it was sold to Wilkins, who took the old mill down and rebuilt on the south side of the stream. It was finally burned in 1877; Mr. Wilkins died and it was never rebuilt.

The first meeting house in this township was a log house near the center of section 16, built about 1830 by the Methodists. In the northeast corner of section 1 was erected what, in 1879, was the oldest church building in use in the county, and probably the oldest in this part of Indiana. It was built in 1835 by the Baptist denomination, and known as the Wolf Creek Baptist church. The congregation was formed in 1833.

The first public road was constructed through this section in 1835, by James Bacus, and styled the Greencastle and Perryville road, of which the pioneers were very proud. This township had numerous Grange lodges in the palmy days of the Patrons of Husbandry, but they have long since gone the way of all the earth, and "middle men," legitimate dealers, have taken the place of half farmer and half merchant men.

At Russell Mills postoffice a large flouring mill was erected, and a few stores opened, a shop or two started and a physician located there before 1879. Another large store was started at what was known as Grangeburg; also Dr. Williamson located at that point. There are no towns or villages within this township at this date.

#### OLD JOHNNY GREEN KILLED.

A former history of this township gives the following concerning the death of old Johnny Green, the noted Indian chief:

"The last Indian killed in this part of the country was old Johnny Green. He was a bad Indian in fact. His own people would not let him associate with them. One day Henry Litzey and some more of the old settlers were at

old John Beard's mill, at the mouth of Sugar creek, after flour; the old Indian also happened to visit the mill at that time and began boasting of the number of women and children he had killed. In place of going on the war path with the warriors, he used to skulk around the settlement and slaughter the defenseless females and infants and on this occasion was boasting of his exploits in that line, and telling with great glee how he used to impale the little innocents on saplings and laughed as he described how they would shriek and cross their little arms about. This aroused Mr. Litzey's manhood and he at once proceeded to inflict corporal punishment on the old heathen. The other men, however, interfered and the matter dropped. On his way home on horseback, Mr. Litzey heard the report of a gun and felt a bullet whistle past him; glancing behind, he observed the Indian, with a smoking rifle in his hand, peering from behind a tree. Being unarmed, he at once put spurs to his horse and rode at a lively gait for a mile or two, when, thinking he had gone out of the reach of danger, he again dropped into a walk. Again he heard the report of a rifle and again felt the wind from the bullet pass close by his head, and not being willing to run the risk of a third shot, proceeded home as fast as possible and arrived in safety. On reaching the house he took his gun and went off on a hunt, and Johnny Green was never seen again in that part of the country. It was never known for certain who had put him out of the way, but public opinion always gave Mr. Litzey the credit of the act, though he would never acknowledge it, always stating that the last time he saw the Indian, he observed him sitting on a flat rock in Sugar creek, just below the Narrows, fishing; suddenly he jumped up as if crazy and dived into the water, from which he never arose."



## CHAPTER XXVII.

### UNION TOWNSHIP.

Union township constitutes all of township 15, range 6, hence is just six miles square. It is one of the eastern tiers of townships in Parke county, and is bounded on the north by Greene, on the west by Adams, on the south by Jackson, and on the east by Putnam county. The main streams that water and drain the township are the Big Raccoon, Troutman's run, Limestone branch of Raccoon, Rocky Fork and others of lesser importance. Bain's branch has its source in the east and flows west, uniting with the larger stream in section 10. For a third of a century and more it has been possible for all these streams to be crossed by footmen, except the Raccoon. In many places the beds of these streams are solid limestone rock. The current of these creeks and rivers is very rapid, owing to the great fall of the land through which they pass. The lime and sand rock along the rivers afford excellent building stone. What is one of the curiosities of this county is the natural bridge on the west side of the creek at the old B. A. Martin place, where it spans a gully. It is solid stone, averaging twenty-four inches through, having a span of fully forty feet, with a track of about twenty feet wide. One can walk erect under this bridge, and at one time it was much higher from floor to ceiling, the soil having washed in from above and filled it up below.

In 1912 the assessed valuation of all personal and real estate in this township was \$358,630, and its population in 1910 was placed in the government census report at 948.

### CONCERNING SOME OF THE PIONEERS.

At the Terre Haute land office John Martin purchased, in 1820, one-half of section 33, and then returned to his land after a year with his family. Before that, however, parties of hunters and fishers had visited these lonely forests, but not to locate. Mr. Martin came in with his wife and family of eleven children. They emigrated from North and South Carolina, in a four-horse wagon and a two-horse vehicle, the distance being six hundred miles, and were en route six weeks. The way was often so densely covered with

timber and brush that an axman had to go ahead and prepare the way. Upon arriving they proceeded to erect a rude log hut in which to find shelter for the time being. They built on a hillside, at the bottom of which was a fine spring of pure water. The Indian trail from Terre Haute through Mansfield and along the Big Raccoon to Cornstalk passed close by the place. This trail crossed and recrossed this creek in many places. The elder Martin was a blacksmith and gunsmith, besides being a farmer. The Indians passed up and down their trail and frequently camped on the Martin land near the pretty, swift-running creek. These consisted of the Delawares and Miamis, and they furnished the gunsmith Martin with plenty of repair work, for which they usually paid the cash. Mrs. Martin made clothes for the children out of buckskin, while they also had plenty of good venison for the table. Mr. Martin related how all the Indians would drink and get beastly drunk, except one who would always remain sober to take good care of the rest. They frequently quarreled badly among themselves, but never molested the whites and always paid for what they bought of them. There are three Indian graves on the Martin farm, but usually they buried their dead at Cornstalk. The older Martin continued his business until 1827, when he died and was buried on his own land. He had served at the age of sixteen years as a substitute under Washington in the Revolution; had experienced the hardships of war, so was well fitted for pioneer life here in the solitary wilds of Parke county. The family began to separate and divide the farm, and move and marry and raise families of their own.

The same year in which Martin came in Thomas Wolverton, from Ohio, purchased land in sections 29 and 30. They came after the Blakes and stayed at Blake's while he cleared up a patch of land and erected a cabin. Wolverton then went to Virginia, stayed five years, and returned, built, dug a well, and made other improvements. He then went to Ohio. Wolverton died in 1848, leaving a wife and family. In 1821 John Miller entered land in sections 29 and 30. He began his farming, after having built a comfortable cabin. The same year William Sutherlin arrived from Virginia and bought land in both Putnam and Parke counties for his sons. In 1822 he moved his family, wife and nine children, and he settled near the eastern line of this township. Isaac Norman helped to survey this county in 1820, and selected his lands, but did not settle for some years afterward. John Duncan entered land in 1822 or 1823, and Thomas Carmichael came about that date. In 1822 came the Troutmans, Stephenses and Kays. A little later came the Jameses and Nathan Plunket, as well as Lemuel Norman, who lived on the Big Raccoon. In 1823 Thomas C. Burton entered land in New Discovery, east and northeast

of Bellemore. Other early settlers were John Blake and his large family, John McGilvery, John Noble, Robert Broaddus and Samuel Harlan. All of these arrived prior to 1830. Those coming in between 1830 and 1840 included John Collins, John and William Bulion, the Akers and Mershons and Cyrus Goss.

#### MILLS AND VILLAGES.

At first the settlers had to carry their grain to mill on horseback to Dixon's mill, and a little later to Portland. The Noble mills were built in 1829 on the Big Raccoon, south of present Hollandsburg. John McGilvery hauled the mill-stones from Vigo county. Soon after this the Springfield mills were built. These mills did the sawing and grinding for many years after the first settlers came in.

As the township was settled up more there came a natural demand for mechanics, the first, of course, being blacksmiths. About 1830 William Aydelotte settled on the present site of Bellemore, or rather a half mile to the north. There he started a blacksmith shop, doing the work for a large scope of country. This was the first shop in New Discovery, but Martin's must have been the first shop in the township. In those days a round rod of iron was seldom seen in these parts, so Aydelotte kept a forge and he and his boys forged their own iron. William Alexander probably had the first inn or tavern, and this was the germ, so to speak, of Bellemore village. A few more cabins were put in around the Guisinger shops, and John Bulion, Sr., having come from the East, suggested that the cluster north of the State road be called Northampton, after the city of this name in Massachusetts, and that south of the road be called Southampton. The shop at the latter place was soon abandoned, so the town was known as Northampton. John Aydelotte built a blacksmith shop, and John M. Turner rented the back room for a wagon shop. In 1856 Turner built his wagon shop, the first in the township, and there did a thriving business. About 1839 William Thornton built the first store room, what came to be known as Bellemore. In 1850 Isaac Wimmer bought from Alexander his property, and in 1853 sold to Moore and Snow, and they put up a steam flouring-mill and a saw-mill, put up a store building and each a dwelling. The hamlet began to be a center for trade, and the people demanding a postoffice, they petitioned to have one established and suggested the name be Northampton, but while the department granted the office, it found it impracticable to call it Northampton, as Indiana already had such a postoffice, hence it was named Bellemore, which derived its name as follows: Mr. Moore, then a resident of the place, had

some daughters whom General Steele, a guest of Moore, very much admired. The General one day said to his host, "This town ought to be called Bellemore (Belle-Moore) in honor of your daughters;" hence the origin.

The second town in this township was Hollandsburg, on section 9. In 1855, or about that year, John Collings built a hewed-log house on the spot, and Abraham Collings built a store sixteen by twenty feet, and there sold goods, carrying about a four-hundred-dollar stock. Thus was started the village. The Collings gave it the name it bears, in honor of a Baptist minister in Kentucky whose name was Holland. About 1860, John McGilvery built a large house for a residence—the best in the place. In 1859 the Baptist church was built. The first postmaster was L. D. McGilvery. Neither Hollandsburg or Bellemore were ever incorporated, but remain small trading places. Union township has no railroad facilities, and most of the grain is hauled to Rockville and other shipping places.

The roads of this section are extremely hilly, owing to the lay of the country, and in an early day it was almost impossible to get in and out of the township. But as time went on roads were finally provided at much expense and hard labor.

The cemeteries of this township are mostly of the "family burying-ground" character, each early family choosing to bury their departed dead as near the spot where they lived and labored as possible. Among the well-known burial places are the Blake graveyard, the Martin graveyard, the Nobles and Kelley, the Colemans, Harneys, and Coopers.

The schools and churches of this township have been noticed in the general chapters in this work.



## CHAPTER XXVIII.

### WABASH TOWNSHIP.

This sub-division of Parke county is on the western border, and is south of Reserve, west of Adams, north of Florida township, and is bounded on the west by the Wabash river, which is the dividing line between this county and Vermillion county. Along the river, and in places running back a considerable distance, are the Wabash bottoms, which are considered the richest land in the state, although up the river at the northwest corner of the township the land is higher, but not broken, and is therefore the most valuable of any in this part of Parke county. The middle and northeast part of the township is quite hilly, the bluffs in places rising abruptly to a considerable height. These hills are to quite an extent underlaid with coal; a fair quality of building stone is also found in places, and iron exists upon Iron creek in the northeast part of the township. Raccoon creek, the chief stream in the township, enters from the south and runs northward some little more than half way through the township, then turns west, running almost directly to the river. On this stream Abner Cox built the first mill of any note in this part of the county. To it came the pioneers, some in row boats, some with carts and oxen and some from other parts came with grists on horseback, winding their way over hills and through the heavy timber, then scarcely broken by the sturdy settler's axe. This mill was built near Armiesburg. After the mill came other milling improvements, to grind out whisky from rye and corn, making a home market for farmer's produce. One writer in 1879 said: "It was discovered that a 'worm' in this still house was more venomous than any reptile ever found in Parke county." In 1830, Patterson, Silliman & Company started a store here, where pork could be sold at a dollar and fifty cents per hundred, salt could be purchased at seven dollars per barrel, and calico from thirty-five to forty cents per yard.

Some of the first settlers hauled wheat to Chicago, Louisville, and Cincinnati Ohio, and sold it for fifty cents per bushel and hauled back merchandise.

### PIONEER SETTLEMENT.

Among the early settlers may be recalled Isaac Ghormly and family, Daniel James and Aquilla Justis, Lucius Kebby and family, Aquilla Puntent-

ney, Mark and Thomas Cooke, William Hixon, Azariah Brown, James and Aquilla Laverty. Many of these pioneers have descendants in the township today.

At the time the early settlers came, the Indians were quite numerous. In this township was one section of land given by the state to Christmas Dazney, spoken of elsewhere in this volume. The Indians were peaceable, but idle and shiftless.

In 1832 the Mecca saw-mill was built by Alexander McCune and Samuel Lowry. In 1833 a factory for wool carding and a year later a fulling mill were added to the place and in 1855 these gentlemen built a large custom mill. In 1873 a good bridge was built over the creek at this place, protected from the weather by a shingle roof. This place is about two miles up the creek from Armiesburg. The latter place derived its name from the fact that it is on the place where General Harrison crossed the Raccoon creek, and camped with his army, while en route to the famous battle ground of Tippecanoe in this state.

In 1912 the assessed valuation of personal and real estate property in this township was \$787,555. Its population in 1910 was 1,955. The churches and schools are mentioned under general chapter heads. Many of the early settlers buried their dead in the most convenient places, generally near their own homes, and for long years the plow and harvester have gone ruthlessly over the spot where lie their remains. Since 1840, however, more care has been taken to protect the burial places within the township. About 1836 Leatherwood burying ground was staked off and in 1849 was deeded by Isaac Silliman to the trustees of the society of the United Brethren. About forty years ago, William Hixon deeded to the trustees a piece of land in section 19, township 15, for a place to bury the dead. Other places were later selected.

The first school house in the township was erected in 1834, by A. McCune, three-fourths of a mile from Mecca, to the southeast.

Flat-boat building was one of the early-day industries in this township. Many of the pioneers made trips to New Orleans by these boats, Mr. McCune having made thirty-five trips to the gulf in this manner.

A local writer mentions the "never-built" railroads in Wabash township in the following strain:

"If any township in Parke county, more than another, can boast of her unfinished railroads it is Wabash. In 1873 Mr. Young, of Chicago, started the Indiana division of the Chicago, Danville & Vincennes railroad. It was graded about half way through the township, from the south side, running

through the Raccoon bottoms. The truss bridges were also erected. In 1854 the Illinois Central and Indiana Central surveyed a line through the north part of Wabash township, but never built the road. In 1874 a company formed to build the Springfield road. This line passed over the old survey. On October 15, 1875, the contract was let to build and own the road from Montezuma to Indianapolis, via Rockville. The grading was begun in the fall of 1875, and in the winter of 1876 they failed and the road was abandoned. Thus the fond hopes of the Wabash people as well as those of Rockville, perished and, like the morning dew, flitted away and the prospective, like the canal, are 'hopes deferred.' "

But later the township was blessed with a line of railroad known as the Chicago & Eastern Illinois, which enters the county in Liberty township and traverses the townships of Liberty, Reserve, Wabash, Florida, forming junction with the Vandalia at Rosedale, with a station point in Wabash township, at Mecca, on sections 19 and 30. This was constructed in the eighties and is a paying railroad proposition and has been the means of bringing into existence the sprightly town of Mecca, which was platted on section 20, township 15, range 8, August 7, 1890, by Samuel L. McCune. Other plattings were made later. The place now has a population of about one thousand four hundred and is supplied with all that goes toward making up a modern built town of its size. Its churches and schools and other interests are noted throughout other chapters, in a general way with other towns. Being one of the new towns of the county, its early history is not so important, but the early settlement of Wabash township gives the pioneer history of that portion of the county.

It may be added that the old Wabash & Erie canal runs from north to south, through Wabash township, and in its day was looked upon as a great thoroughfare. Traces of the canal are to be seen at many places along the western part of Parke county, including the town of Montezuma and Reserve and Wabash townships.

At Mecca there is now in operation an extensive plant for the making of drain tile, by William Dee, who is the great Chicago tile manufacturer through this section of Indiana, with several plants for brick and tile.

## CHAPTER XXIX.

### WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP.

Washington township is a central sub-division of Parke county. It has a population, as noted by the last federal census, of 1,481. Its assessed valuation, both real and personal property, in 1912, is \$907,760. This township comprises part of township 15 and township 16, ranges 6 and 7, and contains thirty-six sections of rich, beautiful land, with extensive coal-bearing lands and mines, the latter for year having been its greatest source of revenue. The old-time log cabins that once dotted this section have been displaced and modern farm houses of rare excellence and attractiveness now adorn the entire township. Several never-failing streams of the finest, purest water course through this township. Among these may be named Roaring creek, Leatherwood, Sand and Williams creeks, whose waters find their way into the little Raccoon.

In 1872 the Terre Haute & Logansport railroad was constructed across the corner of this township, and a station point established on section 24, which was later named Judson. On section 35 is Nyesville, built up on the coal mining interests of that neighborhood, it having a branch line extending to the mines.

#### FIRST SETTLERS.

The first white man to invade and claim land within Washington township, as now defined, was Alexander Buchanan, who arrived in 1821, locating on section 24, near Little Raccoon creek. When he came this was all a forest land and indeed wild in all that could be mentioned. His only neighbors were the Indians, they being of the Delawares, Miamis and Pottawatomie tribes, whose villages and burying grounds were then numerous in this township. The next settler was David Bruen, who located at the point later known as Bruen's cross-roads, where the first postoffice was established, with Mr. Bruen as postmaster. In the autumn of 1822 there were twelve families in this settlement. These were the Buchanans, Bruens, David Todd, Ambrose Lambert, Charles Abbott, his mother and brother, two families named Harlan, a Dutch family named Shmok, and the families of McMillan and Garrison, the two



later having settled over the line in Adams township. The following year came Fleming and James Long, and soon came the McMurtie family. Then the number which came in was too large to here trace or enumerate.

In the Roaring Creek or Poplar Grove settlement, in the north end of the township, the first to arrive was John Maris, in the fall of 1826. He settled on the southeast quarter of section 5, on the old Indian trail. He cleared ten acres of land and the next year raised a crop of corn for bread purposes and feed. He obtained his seed corn from the Cook family, in the settlement to the west of him, paying ten cents a bushel for the seed. Next came in Joshua Newlin, his son John and daughter Sarah and her husband, James Underwood, they being newly married, but had never tried the perplexities of married life in a new country. They reached this township in the fall of 1827 and located on the northeast of section 4, at once building a shed, in which they lived for three weeks, at the end of which time they had their cabin erected, save the stick-and-clay chimney, which soon followed. The following winter was occupied at chopping and logging, clearing away for a patch on which to sow and plant. In the meantime they had to live chiefly on corn bread and mush and milk. Corn was still ten cents, but money was hard to get hold of. They brought seeds with them and planted some peach seed, and in three years had plenty of fine fruit from this early planting. An apple orchard was also planted from which they had an abundance of good apples within seven years. His son John settled on section 4, and at once cleared away five acres, settling on the same in the spring of 1828. The son-in-law, Underwood, settled on section 3 and went to housekeeping. The next to come was Nathan Hockett, in the spring of 1828, who went to work on land he purchased in section 4. He owned the first cow in the settlement, having brought her from North Carolina when he came. The next fall came William and Jesse Hobson, locating on section 9. In 1829, in the autumn time, came the Teaghe family, their location being on section 8. Others who soon swelled the number in the little colony were Aaron Rawlings, Aaron D. Huff, Gabriel Wilson, Eli Bundy, Jonathan Trublood and family, W. Hill, Elias Trublood, Jesse Yemp, David Newlin, Joshua and John Engle, and the McCampbell family.

The first school house was erected on what was known as the "lost quarter," a strip of territory on section 26. It was there that a school was taught by John McBride, an Irishman. In 1833 the first school in Roaring Creek settlement was taught. The Presbyterians built the first meeting house in this township in 1823. Early services were held by the Methodist Epis-

copal people, under Rev. Cravens, who styled himself, "The Almighty's Bulldog." See church chapter elsewhere; also educational chapter for schools.

Among the first deaths in the settlement above mentioned was the drowning of Samuel Teaghe, July 4, 1834.

Roseville mills provided the first milling facilities this township had. In 1825 Samuel Steele built his Portland mill, in Greene township, and soon there were a number of mills erected in near-by districts.

At Nyesville, noted above, in 1880 there were extensive coal mining operations opened up, on sections 33 and 34. These mines were opened and worked by the Parke County Coal Mining Company, and this has been the means of supporting a good little mining village ever since. The United States census of 1910 gave the population as ninety-five, which fluctuates with the number of miners employed at various times.

The village of Judson, a place having less than two hundred inhabitants, in 1910, is situated on section 24, of this township, and was platted by Alexander Buchanan, May 4, 1872. The railroad was completed that year, and the first store was opened by Glover & Milligan, who were followed very speedily by many more business concerns. Presbyterian and Methodist churches were soon organized and houses provided in which to worship. A Masonic lodge was formed in 1874, and an Odd Fellows lodge in the same year.



# VERMILLION COUNTY

## CHAPTER I.

### NATURAL FEATURES OF VERMILLION COUNTY.

The word "vermillion" is from the French, signifying "a bright red sulphuret of mercury," and is applied to this territory and the stream by that name, on account of the red or brown color of the earth and the abundance of "keel," or "red-chalk," found along the banks of the river now called Vermillion. It is believed that this substance was formed by the burning of the overlying shale, the outcrops of the coal, the latter igniting from the autumn fires set by the people then inhabiting this region. The river was first named, then the county.

Geographically, Vermillion county is thirty-nine degrees and fifty-five minutes north, and eighty-seven degrees and ten minutes west longitude from Greenwich, England. The standard railroad time, which is conformed to the ninetieth meridian, is about eleven minutes slower than local sun-time. Newport, the county seat, is five hundred and twenty feet above sea-level, and fifty-five feet above the low water mark of the Wabash river opposite.

The beautiful Wabash river, with its charming scenery, is equal in that respect to almost any other stream in the West. Its silvery ripples are seen here and there midst luxurious foliage of splendid forest kings, while long ranges of hills add further beauty and sublimity to the scene which is ever a feast to the eye of the beholder. The more than thirty-seven miles of river front presented within this county, is wholly made up of attractive natural scenery, making the territory one of the "loveliest valleys in the West." The Wabash and its tributaries completely drain and water the county of which this volume is a history. Spring branch, really a large creek, flows south-westerly through the northeast corner of Highland township. Coal branch flows south near the western border. Big Vermillion river winds in graceful curves through the southwestern corner of Highland township and also through the northern part of Eugene township. Little Vermillion river winds



through the southwestern corner of Eugene township, emptying into the Wabash near the middle of the eastern side of Vermillion township. Jonathan creek, in the western portion of Vermillion township, flows northeasterly into Little Vermillion. Brouillet's (pronounced Brulet's creek) is wholly within Clinton township, coursing its way southeasterly, forming confluence with the Wabash river. Little Raccoon creek, in Helt township, runs to the southeast, in the northeastern portion of the township, falling into the Wabash between Highland and Alta.

#### GEOLOGICAL FORMATION.

Almost one-third of the territory embraced within Vermillion county consists of rich, fertile and valuable bottom lands of the great and historic Wabash river together with its affluents, Big and Little Vermillion rivers and Norton's creek. The main terrace of the "second bottom," is finely developed in the region of Perrysville and Newport. This terrace is from one to four miles wide, giving an extended stretch of rich, well drained farming lands, with an average elevation of about forty feet above the first bottom. Below the town of Newport the bluffs reach the river so nearly that the terrace is nearly obliterated, and the immediate bottoms are hence very narrow. At the mouth of Little Raccoon creek the bottom lands are extended wider, but there is no large amount of terrace land until the head of Helt prairie is reached, at a point six miles to the north of the city of Clinton, where it stretches to the southward and is from one to three miles in width. Again three miles below Clinton it narrows down at the mouth of Brouillet's and the county line.

When Vermillion county was first settled by white men the bottoms were heavily timbered, but a large part of the terrace was devoid of timber. It is hardly probable that this land was originally prairie, on account of its nature and favorable situation, hence it is supposed that this land was cleared and cultivated by the same race of people, possibly the much-talked-of, and but little understood, Mound Builders. The "mounds" are to be seen all through this region, and it is thought that the annual fires prevented a re-occupation by trees and shrubs.

Rising from the upper bottom lands bluffs are seen, more or less abrupt, which attain a general level of from one hundred and twenty to one hundred and thirty feet above the river bed, forming the somewhat elevated border lands of Grand prairie. The most gradual ascent is to the westward from Perrysville, which provide a natural roadway for the railroad now traversing this portion of the county. South of the Big Vermillion river the bluffs are

much steeper. These bluffs are too steep for practical cultivation, and timber is still found growing, including oak, hickory, maple and walnut, and, in the south part of the county, beech. Thirty years ago and less there were found large groves of maple of the sugar variety. From the chief streams this timbered region extends to the westward to the state line. The northern and middle portions of the county are in great part a portion of what is known as the Grand prairie, which covers all eastern Illinois, from the forests of the Little Wabash to Lake Michigan.

Vermillion county is blessed with springs, bursting forth from below the bowlder clay of the drift period. Many of these springs are exceedingly strong in their flow, but with the settlement of the county, artificial drainage, etc., have somewhat diminished.

The alluvium of the river bottoms have the common features of all river deposits. Vegetable remains are mingled with fine sand and mud washed from the drift-beds up the streams, and occasional deposits of small stones and gravel, derived either from the drift or from rock formations through which these rivers have cut their way. The only positive information concerning the depths of these beds refers to the prairies between Eugene and Perrysville, where wells have been sunk sixty feet through alluvia sand, and then encountered six to ten feet of sticky, bluish mud filled with leaves, twigs and trunks of trees, and occasionally small masses of what appears to have been stable manure. This stratum is sometimes called "Noah's Barnyard." The lake-bottom deposits, of a corresponding age, which commonly underlie the soil of the Grand prairie, have been found west of the state line, consisting of marly-clays and brick-clay subsoil, and probably exist equally under such portions of the prairie as extend into Vermillion county.

There are numerous fine gravel beds in the county, principally developed since the construction of railroads. The bowlder clay mentioned above, which substance forms the mass of drift formation, is a tough, bluish drab, unlaminated clay, more or less thoroughly filled with fine and coarse gravel, and includes many small bowlders. On the high bluff, to the west of Perrysville, this bed was penetrated to a depth of about one hundred feet before reaching the water-bearing quicksand commonly found beneath it. Outcrops of one hundred and ten feet have been measured. This is much thinner in the southern part of Vermillion county. From the difference in character of the included bowlders at different levels, it is supposed by geologists that the currents which brought the materials composing these beds flowed in different directions at different times.

As an example of the above descriptions, said a writer on this subject

twenty-five years ago: "A section from a branch of Jonathan's creek, in Eugene township, where boulder clay, with pebbles of Silurian limestone and trap, thirty feet; yellow clay, with fragments of coal, shale, sand-stone, etc., four inches; boulder clay, with pebbles of Silurian limestone, twenty-five feet; ferruginous sand, a streak; boulder clay from the northwest, with pebbles of various metamorphic rocks and trap, and nuggets of native copper, fifty feet."

The section of rocks exposed at the horseshoe of the Little Vermillion exhibits the following strata: Black, slaty shale; coal, two and a half to four feet thick; fire-clay and soft shales, with iron-stones, fifteen feet; argillaceous (clayey) limestone, one to two feet; dark drab clay shale, one foot; coal, four to five feet; light colored fire-clay, two feet; dark colored fire-clay, one foot; soft, drab shale, with iron-stones, ten to fifteen feet; fossiliferous, black slaty shale, often pyritous, with many large iron-stone nodules, two to three feet.

A considerable portion of the boulders and pebbles of these beds, especially those consisting of limestone and the metamorphic rocks, are finely polished and striated on one or more of their sides, showing the power of the forces which were engaged in their transportation from their original beds. Nuggets of galena (lead) and of native copper are occasionally met with, and have had the usual effect of exciting the imagination of those ignorant of the fact that the rocks which contain these metals do not occur nearer than the galena region of northern Illinois.

The only rock formation in the county, practically speaking, is that of the "coal measure" already mentioned. The first uppermost vein of coal is covered by a few feet of soil only. The limerock below it is very thinly laminated, being mingled with much clay; but the shales covering the next vein constitute a fair working roof.

The sand iron-stones are interesting to the hunter of fossils, as they contain numerous fragmentary remains of fishes, insects, etc. This fossil district extends along the Little Vermillion to its mouth and down the Wabash. Outcrops of this strata are found along the chief streams throughout the entire county of Vermillion.

In going up stream along the Big Vermillion river, on its south bank, a mile below Eugene, a bluff twenty to thirty feet high is of irregularly bedded, highly ferruginous, coarse grained sand-stone, often containing plant remains, with some large fragments of trees, etc. Some of these beds are sufficiently solid to make good building stones. In quarrying them many fine trunks have been found and the larger branches of *leipodendron* and *sigillaria*.

Wells sunk below Perrysville, below the limestone rock, ninety feet, have

exposed no traces of coal, but coal is found at no great distance, owing to the sudden dips in the geological strata. In general terms, it may be said that most all of Vermillion county is underlaid with a good quality of soft coal. A total estimate of eight feet would probably cover the thickness of coal underneath this county—a wonderful mine of wealth for generations yet unborn! The chapter on Mines and Mining in this work will treat the vast coal mining interests.

The principal iron ore found within Vermillion county is an impure carbonate, occurring in nodules and irregular layers of sands. Once, these were shipped to a furnace at Brouillet's Creek, where they yielded thirty-three per cent. of iron ore. The ore here averages from twenty to thirty per cent. Along the Norton creek bottoms, near the head of Helt's prairies, a bed of bog-iron, about three feet thick and extending over an area of about eight acres, has been discovered in the last thirty years. Zinc blende is also found in small quantities. Its appearance, at an early day, on the Little Vermillion river, gave rise to the so-called "silver mine."

The second bottoms, or terraces in Vermillion county, in order from the north are named Walnut Mound, Eugene or Sand, Newport and Helt's. The soil is a black sandy loam, producing the richest and most paying crops. These terraces comprise about three-tenths of the entire county, and are from thirty-five to sixty-five feet above low-water mark, while the higher portions of the county are from two hundred and fifty to two hundred and seventy feet above low-water.

Professor Collett, in his 1880 report, says: "Remains of the mammoth have been discovered in nearly all sections of Indiana. They have consisted, as a rule, of the most compact bones of these animals, as the teeth, tusks, jaws and thigh bones. Some of the best preserved teeth of the mammoth were found in the counties of Vigo, Parke, Vermillion, Wayne, Putnam and Vanderburg."

#### CONCERNING THE FORESTS.

Eighty-five per cent. of the area of Indiana was originally heavily forested. The prairie district occupied a small portion of the northwestern part of the state. In this part the timber was confined principally to the low lands. In all parts of the state the timber has been cut for lumber and to clear the farm land, until now only twenty per cent. of the original forest, seventeen per cent. of the total area of the state, remains. The cutting off of the forests of the state has had a great influence on the drainage. When the forests were still intact, the fallen leaves, mold and shade tended to retain the surplus water



during the rainy seasons, and this water, given out gradually, tended to equalize the stream flow. Floods were less common then. Now the systematic drainage of the land causes the water, during the rainy seasons, to flow directly into the stream. Thus the streams are flooded during the wet weather and soon dry up after the rains cease. This condition is especially true of the portion of the state south of the Wisconsin glacial boundary. In the Wisconsin glacial area the sand and gravel deposits serve to some extent the same purpose as the leaves, mold and shade of the previously forested area of the unglaciated region. The effect of the removal of the forests is shown by the remains of old water-mill sites, on small streams which are now dry for more than half the year. Many of these small power mills were run continuously fifty years ago. These power sites are now impractical except where immense storage basins can be constructed. Charles R. Van Hise in the United States government reports on Conservation, says: "It is estimated by McGee that, by injudicious farming and deforestation, the water table has been lowered in the eastern part of the United States by from ten to forty feet. Indeed he estimates that the shallow wells and springs in this part of the country, at least three-fourths, have failed. The springs have dried up; the small brooks have ceased to flow; the wells have been sunk to lower levels.

"In this matter we have an exceptional situation with reference to water which is somewhat analogous to that of minerals. We are using the supplies of the past and not restoring an equal amount. This we are doing to some extent because of our present need; but also more wells are drilled in many artesian districts than are necessary; and when they are not in use, which is often the larger part of the year, the water from them is allowed to run off freely. Usually it is not realized that such waste lessens the head and makes available a smaller amount of water when it is again needed. This waste of underground water is analogous to the waste of natural gas. Strange as it may appear, waste of this kind is allowed to continue not only in humid regions where water is not appreciated, but in arid regions where it is of such fundamental importance. Such waste should be prohibited by law and the law should provide means of enforcement.

"Already strict laws exist in a number of states of the West; this is illustrated by California. It is clear that laws preventing the waste of water are constitutional upon substantially the same grounds as are the laws with reference to the waste of natural gas. This is clearly indicated by decisions which have been rendered in the various courts.

"It is important to get into the ground a sufficient amount of water, so that the water table will be maintained at a convenient depth. This is es-

pecially important in the arid and semi-arid regions, for there often the underground water is the only certain source of this element for domestic purposes and for irrigation.

"On a much wider scale increasing the proportion of precipitation which goes under ground, may be accomplished by covering the earth with vegetation, by contour plowing, and by cultivating in such a manner as to leave a rough surface."

The whole of this question simply shows the opinion of an expert upon the subject of the conservation of water. The last paragraph is applicable to Indiana and to Vermillion and Parke counties. It is indeed astonishing to notice the poor grade of farming carried on in many parts of this state. Fields are left absolutely bare for a whole summer and for many years. Such fields not only drain off most of the water which falls upon them, but the hard crust causes the evaporation of the underground water to be much greater. Upon such fields even a rank growth of weeds is a blessing, except for the seeds which they produce. One of the secrets of successful farming in this state is the power of the farmer to properly handle the ground water under his land. When every farmer understands the secret of conserving ground water and puts the knowledge to practical use, the dry well and intermittent spring problems will be greatly lessened and the facilities for water-power will be somewhat increased.

Then, from all that has been observed, it will pay to save the remaining forests and conserve the water, both upon and underneath the fertile soil of Indiana.

    " That old familiar tree,  
        Whose glory and renown  
Are spread o'er land and sea—  
        And would'st thou hew it down?  
Woodman forbear thy stroke!  
        Cut not its earth-bound ties;  
Oh, spare that aged oak  
        Now towering to the skies!"

#### CLAYS OF VERMILLION COUNTY.

The entire coal measure of this and adjoining counties is underlaid with a very superior grade of clay, including that suitable for pottery and fire-brick. White settlers first began to use this clay in this portion of the state, for making "stone-ware." By 1840 this had grown to be a large industry. It

then went down largely and by 1853 but little was made use of. Efforts were made then to utilize the shales and clays again. At Hillsdale and at Montezuma, Parke county, several plants were erected for making fire-clay goods for refractory purposes, in the construction of furnaces, crucibles, flues and generally where heat resistance is sought. At Montezuma, too, a clay roofing tile factory was operated. In 1890 the clay industry again took on new life, and four large plants at and near Montzuma and one at Clinton were established. The business up and down the Wabash, in these two counties, is now largely interested in tile.

## CHAPTER II.

### PRE-HISTORIC AND INDIAN RACES.

Perhaps no better, reliable account of the Mound Builders and Indians who lived, labored and died within the domain now known as Vermillion county can be given, at this date, than that prepared from facts compiled by that student and correct writer, Hon. John Collett, hence the following descriptions of those who inhabited the country prior to the coming of the white race, should be credited largely to him, and as he was the state geologist and in a position to know whereof he wrote, it will be taken as nearly true as mortal man can now hope to arrive at conclusions drawn by him and made a part of the state's record.

When first explored by the white race, this county was occupied by savage Indians, without fixed habitation, averse to labor and delighting only in war and the chase. Their misty traditions did not reach back to any previous people or age, but numerous earth-works are found in this region of such extent as to require for their construction much time and the persistent labor of many people. Situated on river bluffs, their location combines picturesque scenery, adaptability for defense, convenience for transportation by water, and productive lands. These are not requisites in the nomadic life of red-men, and identify the Mound Builders as a partially civilized people. Their mounds and other works are of such extent that it required years of labor, with basket and shovel, to erect such coordination of labor as to indicate the rule of priestly government or regal authority; they were certainly to that extent civilized. Their work in its vastness shows that governments were necessary, which must have had civil power to request and require the necessary labor. The implements found in the graves, mounds and tombs were more often domestic and agricultural, and indicate a peaceful, obedient race. Their temples were defended by bulwarks of loving hearts rather than by warrior braves. Many of the religious emblems and articles of utility made of stone point back to the earliest forms of sentiment represented by the fire and sun worshippers of central Asia and give a clue to the reason why their favorite habitations and mounds were as a rule never placed beneath the eastern bluffs of streams, but on the other hand were so located in elevated positions, or on the western



bluffs, that when the timber was cleared away and the lands reduced to cultivation, a long outlook was given to the east and to the sun rise, from which direction their expected Messiah, or ruler, was to come. Similar customs still prevail in Mexico.

Traditions intimate that the tribes were driven southward, from the northern portion of the continent, and these traditions are corroborated by the discovery of relics in this region made from material found far to the north.

Clusters of mounds are found in Vermillion county, on Mound prairie, near the Shelby battle ground and nearly all along the track between Eugene and Newport, many of them from twenty to forty feet in diameter, four, five or six feet high, and the clusters containing from ten to eighty mounds. One memorable mound is situated in the northern part of the city of Clinton, from which earth was removed for road building about 1830. In it were found stone implements of the Mound Builders accompanied with copper beads, five copper rods, half an inch in diameter and eighteen inches long, showing that it was one of the earliest of the Mound Builders works, while they were also accompanied with other implements imported from the north.

Another, on the Head farm, near Newport, had copper rods, or spear-heads and smaller stone implements. These were probably burial grounds. A majority of them contained no relics, but were simply abandoned mounds of habitation. Mr. Pigeon, in his volume called "Dacoudah," says he noticed figured mounds of men and beasts on the south bank of the Little Vermillion, three or four miles from its mouth. A burial mound, near the northeast corner, contained a chief in a sitting position, in the center. Radiating from his body, like the spokes of a wheel, were five persons, slaves or wives, to wait upon him in the other world. His useful implements for the other world were a great number of copper beads from a half inch to an inch and a quarter in diameter, seven copper axes, one of which contained unmelted virgin silver, as it occurs at Lake Superior, varying in weight from two to eight pounds, and seven copper rods (spear heads), with pots and crocks, containing black mold, as if it were food. The streams near their homes afforded fish for food, and the implements found indicated that they were skilled in handling fish spears and gigs. The soil surrounding their homes was always the choicest, with the addition of beautiful and engaging scenery. The relics found in their mounds show that in their more northern home, in Wisconsin, Minnesota and Michigan, the common northern material, the striped slate and copper, was abundant. In Vermillion county relics of this character were scarce and precious, if not holy. At more southern points, striped slate implements of northern stone are very rare, while the precious copper could no

longer be used in implement making, but was beaten into the finest of sheets and bent over ornamental pendants. All these, and the customs of their burial, indicate an Asiatic origin, and prove conclusively that in their migration to this region they passed by more northern regions, including Lake Superior.

Afterwards the northern barbarian came, of an intermediate race, between the Mound Builder and the red man. The Mound Builders were driven away by this irruption, their property seized, many of their wives made captives and adopted by the new people. Many of the customs of the old people consequently remained with the newcomers, and the latter also deposited their dead in the old mounds over the remains of the more ancient people. The number of individuals thus found buried together, number from five to two or three thousand. Their graves and relics from the tombs are the only story of their lives. Throughout all these a deep spirit of religious devotion is indicated, as well as the belief in the existence of another world and that implements of a domestic nature were necessary to the comfort of the departed.

On the Moore farm, three miles northwest of Eugene, Mr. Zeke Sheward, in making an underground "dug-out" for the storing of vegetables, on a small mound surrounded by giants of the original forest, found at the depth of three feet, and at least one foot below the surface of the surrounding soil some pieces of metal about the size of a teaspoon handle, and one coin. On analysis they were found to be made of lead, antimony, and tin. The coin had in relief easily identified figures, of a worshiped crocodile of Egypt, or a holy water dog of America, and wood characters, much resembling those of China, or Hindostan. Prof. W. D. Whitney, of Yale College, one of the most thorough linguists of America, believed the characters to be Arabic, but of so ancient a date that the Oriental Society was unable to read them. The director of the British Museum, in London, determined them to be ancient Hindostanee, but of so early a date no scholar in England could read them. Trees, and their remains, indicate an age of more than two thousand years.

In March, 1880, while a company of gravel road workers were excavating gravel from the bank on the ridge at the southwest corner of the Newport fair ground, five human skeletons were found, supposed to be the remains of Indians buried at that point at an early day. In the gravel bank along the railroad, at the southeast corner of the fair ground, another skeleton was found. No implements of war were found with the bones, but ashes were perceivable, which would indicate that they were the remains of Indians. After burying the dead it was their custom in some parts of the country to build a fire over the corpse. Many of the skeletons thus discovered, as well as a large portion of the bones of the lower animals, on exposure to the air, crumble

away so easily that it becomes impossible to preserve them for exhibition. A collection of a dozen skeletons shows by measurements of the thigh-bones found that the warriors, including a few women, averaged over six feet and two inches in height. Without animals for transportation, their bones were made wonderfully strong by the constant carrying of heavy burdens, and their joints heavily articulated, and the trochanters forming the attachment of muscles show that they were not only a race of giant stature, but also of more than giant strength.

Many relics from these mounds, as well as from the surface of the earth elsewhere, have been collected by old resident physicians, and others, especially Prof. John Collett, late state geologist, and Josephus Collett, and an interesting museum may here and there be found presenting a great variety of arrow points, spear heads, stone axes, tomahawks, pestles, mortars, aboriginal pottery, pipes, ornaments, bones of Indian skeletons, etc.

#### INDIAN OCCUPANCY OF THE COUNTY.

At the advent of the white man to the Wabash valley the Indians had virtually ceased from their long warfare and were living in a quiet state. They had no villages or places of permanent residence. In the summer time they remained at one point and in the autumn and winter elsewhere. They lived in wigwams made of deer skins and buffalo robes, which could be easily removed from place to place, or be substituted by others made from the bark of trees. The first white settlers saw all along the banks of the creeks and rivers circular holes in which Indians had cooked their food, and at night would sleep upon the ground with their feet hanging down in the warm places made there in the manner described. The Wabash river was by them called Wah-bashshikka; by the French, Ouabache; the Vermillion was called Osanamon, but by the French, a name which signifies yellow, red or vermilion, afterwards translated into English as Yellow river.

The Miamis occupied a portion of what is now Vermillion county, but their general territory was east of the Wabash. They were a tall, straight race, of handsome countenance, especially the maidens, and were brave and terrible as enemies, kind and faithful as friends.

Then there were the Kickapoos, or Mosquitans, originally from the north and northwest, who occupied the regions south and southwest of the Big Vermillion river, but occasionally, by comity of neighbors, camped for a greater part of the time north of the Vermillion, on their neighbor's territory. The Pottawatomies, also a northern tribe, owned the territory and their rights



were recognized by the government in treaties. Vermillion county was at that time and had been for some years the home of each tribe, who at the zenith of their power had their headquarters at the Big Springs, a half mile south of Eugene, and the place was known among the whites as Springfield. There the councils of their confederacy were held and decisions as to wars and other troubles adjusted. The great treaty with the British merchants was made, and the governor of Virginia took possession of immense tracts of land on the lower Wabash. Many of the early settlers recollected the meetings held there, comprising eight hundred to one thousand individuals. The Pottawatomies were of a somewhat subdued disposition, somewhat stoop-shouldered and of unpleasant countenance; on the other hand, the Kickapoos were a warlike race, quarreled some with all other tribes, and only happy when giving and receiving hard blows.

It is believed that the French missionaries passed down or up the Wabash as early as 1702, possibly two years earlier than that. The missionaries, being Jesuits, were successful in winning converts among the savages. Near the Indian village on section 16, township 17, range 9 west, on cutting down a white oak tree, the rings of growth over the scar made by a white man's axe showed that the incision was made not later than 1720.

It was about 1790 when General Hamtramck led his expedition of Indian volunteers and militia from Vincennes to attack the non-aggressive Indians and their village on the old Shelby farm, near the mouth of the Vermillion. These were the weakened remnants of the now almost extinct Pottawatomies and Kickapoos. This was their favorite camping ground, the confluence of the rivers giving them opportunities for taking fish, which were then very plentiful. The terrace lands above were filled with thousands of plum bushes and grape vines, and it was known as the "great plum patch." The expedition, in two columns, crossed the Indian ford at Eugene, just north of where the mill dam was later constructed. Thence they marched in a circuitous manner to attack the village in the rear, when the direct division should attack it at the same time from the south. The warriors and braves were off on a hunting expedition, and there were none to molest or make afraid the "gal-lant" soldiers, except the broken down old men, the women and the children. It is no wonder that later on the Indians of this region took part in the battle of Falling Timbers and Tippecanoe.

La Chappelle is the name of the first trading post established in the Vermillion village, near Hamtramck's battle ground, the northwest quarter of section 33, township 18, range 9 west, by M. Laselle, afterwards for many years one of the distinguished citizens of Logansport, this state. Another trading



post was subsequently established by an Englishman on the John Collett farm, sections 9 and 16. It was the custom of the French traders here to strike small medals, in size less than a silver quarter of a dollar, with a few figures and initial letters upon them, and tack them upon the trees at the mouths of the tributaries claimed, as a sign of possession.

The Indians at the southern end of this county did their trading at stockades in Sullivan and Knox counties. Among the earliest traders were two brothers, Frenchmen, named Brouillet. For some reason the Indians of that region entertained a strong enmity toward one of the brothers. He was captured and brought to their village, near the mouth of a creek south of Clinton, that now bears his name. At once it was decided to burn him at the stake, and to the stake he was fastened with buckskin thongs. After the men had ceased talking, the squaws, according to Indian custom, had a right to be heard. An aged squaw, who had had a son killed in warfare, demanded the right to adopt the prisoner as a substitute for her lost son, and whilst the privilege was generally granted, on this occasion the demand was refused, although she pleaded earnestly and long. In her wild but heroic determination, she seized a butcher knife and, before anyone could interfere, cut the prisoner loose, pointed to a canoe on the sand shore of the Wabash, and told him to run and save his life if he could. He did run. Pushing the canoe out into the water as far as possible, and giving it directive force toward the middle of the river he sprang aboard and, lying flat in its bottom, paddled it into the stream beyond the reach of the Indians' rifles and escaped. This incident gave the stream the name of Brouillet's creek.

The Brouillets took wives from the Miami tribe. The wife of the elder Brouillet belonged to the family in the line of promotion to the chieftainship. On his death the mother returned to her people, and the children were entitled, according to law, to their proper home and position among her people. Her eldest son grew up an enthusiastic and vigorous young man, and became one of the chiefs of the Miamis. He was equitable in his dealings, energetic in his duties, and a great commander. His prudence served in a great measure to settle any difficulties with his white neighbors, who were constantly encroaching upon his territory and often inflicting injustice upon his people. Frequently, the young men desired to avenge their wrongs, but he was able to prevent the butchering episodes of Indian warfare and retaliation.

Joseph Collett, Sr., after surveying through the then swampy grounds of Hendricks and Montgomery counties, found that his camp was without provisions, and all, including himself, were more or less sick. On the return march of Gen. William Henry Harrison's army to Fort Harrison, now the

city of Terre Haute, he directed the others to go and secure food, and leave him on the bank of the Raccoon creek in a little tent. Chief Brouillet came to him, offered his services to kill game and to dress and cook it, and tenderly care for him, which he did as well as could a woman. Fifty years later, Mr. Collett could only recall the experience and scene with tears in his eyes, and declared Chief Brouillet was one of the best looking men that ever trod the banks of the Wabash, and that he was as kind hearted as he was brave.

#### GENERAL HARRISON'S MARCH TO TIPPECANOE.

In the march to Tippecanoe the Confederate Indians had prepared an ambushade for Harrison's army at the narrow pass between the high, rocky bluffs and the Wabash river, at Vicksburg, near Perrysville. The army forded the river near Montezuma and marched up on the west side of the river and thus avoided that ambushade. They crossed the Little Vermillion, near the railroad bridge of later years, passed up the hollow just back of where Joseph Morehead later settled. Remnants of their corduroy road and bridge might have been seen a quarter of a century later. On that march the useless shooting of a gun was prohibited, and even loud talking, under penalty of death. Judge Naylor, of Crawfordsville, who was one of the volunteers, tells the incident that on Oak Island, on S. S. Collett's farm, a frightened deer jumped over the outer rank of men, and finding himself penned in, ran in various directions, over the enclosed space, and although the soldiers needed fresh meat they were not permitted to shoot the animal. It was allowed to get away in safety. On the two spring branches, on the John Collett farm, sections 9 and 16, corduroy roads were to be seen as late as 1890.

The army marched as close to the river bank as possible, for the protection of the pirogues and keel-boats, which carried corn for their horses and provisions for the men. Spies reported that on account of low water further navigation was impracticable at Coal Creek bar. The boats were landed on the Collett farm, near the later-day ferry known as Gardner's Ferry. It was determined to build a stockade on the farm of the late J. W. Porter, at a point known as Porter's eddy, and that it should partially overhang the river, so as to protect the boats and their stores. Such a fort could usually have been built in one day, but in the bustle and hurry of handling they lost half their axes in the water. One of these was a long time afterwards found, and it was considered curious that a new axe, unused and mounted with an unused handle, should be found there, until Judge Naylor explained the fact that many axes were there lost on the occasion just mentioned, while the men were

busily engaged in building the stockade. Persons were still living in 1890, in this county, who remember seeing portions of this old stockade.

The Kentuckians and the mounted rifle men recruited their horses on the rich blue grass pastures, in the river valley bottoms, on the Porter and Collett farms.

A sergeant and eight men were left to guard the stockade. About seven days afterward a wild looking soldier returned, reporting a disastrous battle at Tippecanoe, the defeat and destruction of the whole army, and that he alone was left to tell the story; that they must quickly destroy the post and retreat to a safe place. The sergeant's reply was, "I was ordered to hold this post; I shall do so. And as for you, deserter and coward, my men will put you upon the ridge-pole of the stockade, and tie your feet together. If the Indians come you will catch the first bullet and shall be the first to die. We will die at our post of duty."

The army marched through the prairie region, west of Perrysville, to where State Line village now stands, and near which place they passed the north boundary of this county, and from which point the line of march and camping places has already been described.

Major James Blair and Judge J. M. Coleman settled on section 16, between Eugene and Newport, before the land in that region was offered for sale by the government. The prairie was known as Little Vermillion, or Coleman's prairie. These two men had always been pioneers. Blair had been one of the heroes of Perry's victories on Lake Erie, and later held conspicuous positions of honor and trust in the community and state; but at this time he and Coleman were peace-makers between the Indians, whose confidence they had, and they knew that Indians, if properly treated, could be trusted.

Se-Seep, or See-Sheep, a small, bow-legged, stoop-shouldered, white-haired man a hundred and ten years old, was chief of the Pottawatomies and their allied Kickapoos. Their territory ranged from the Little Vermillion to Pine creek, including the north half of Vermillion county, all of Warren and the west half of Fountain. Se-Seep had been a gallant fighter in the defense of his people and country at the battle of Fallen Timbers (Wayne's victory), and afterwards in the terrible defeat of his people at Tippecanoe. Brave and heroic in battle, after signing the treaties of peace with the American authorities, he was faithful and trustworthy and finally became a reliable friend of the white people. He became the hero of a serio-comic incident wherein Noah Hubbard, who settled on Indian lands where Cayuga now stands, became the butt of ridicule. Hubbard was cultivating a portion of a ten-acre tract. One day the Indians crossed at the Army Ford and "stole" roasting

ears and squashes as rental. Hubbard found Se-Seep with some ears of corn and two squashes in the folds of his blanket, and he undertook to castigate the chief with a cane. Se-Seep did not scare, but, dropping the vegetables and corn, chased Hubbard out of the field with a stick. Then Hubbard went to Blair and Coleman and demanded that they should call out the Rangers and the mounted riflemen, declaring that the Indians were destroying his property, and that they should be dealt with and punished. They refused to call out the Rangers, but said he might notify them to assemble at their house the next morning. He did so, and the next morning some of the riflemen also assembled and commenced shooting at a mark. The Indians had camped for the night, a mile to the north, at the famous Buffalo Springs. Blair introduced to the Indians the matters of difference, and concluded to have an imitation Indian pow-wow. Accordingly, he and Coleman, who had been chosen as arbitrators, repaired to a plum thicket, with a well-worn Testament, a wooden-covered spelling book, a dilapidated almanac and a remnant of an old law book, as authorities. Here they held a sham court, chattering gibberish and gesticulating like Indians, and finally rendered the following verdict: That the two litigants settle the whole matter by a fist fight. The decision was no sooner announced than the little old Indian chief, who was dressed only with a blanket-belt, threw it off and made rapidly for Hubbard. Of course the latter ran as fast as he could, mounted his pony and was soon out of sight. The Indians, who are scarcely ever known to laugh, indulged heartily on this occasion.

Se-Seep was finally murdered in a foul manner at Nebuker's Springs, Fountain county, at the age of one hundred and ten years, by a lazy, vicious Indian named Nannqua. He had a splendid son, who, at the age of seventeen years, was killed by falling fifty feet from a tree, while fighting a bear, near the residence of John Collett.

Although no battles or skirmishes in connection with the war of 1812 took place in this county, the "Vermillion country" was two or three times crossed by belligerents. From a copy of Gen. John Tipton's journal it is learned: Tipton was an illiterate man, but a daring fighter, and in the autumn of 1811 he, as a private in Captain Spencer's Harrison County Riflemen, journeyed from Corydon, that county, down the Wabash to Fort Harrison, four miles north of Terre Haute, and up the same stream again, in the Indian campaign which ended in the bloody battle of Tippecanoe. The company comprised forty-seven men, besides officers, and these were joined by Captain Heath and twenty-two men. In going down the river they guarded a keel-boat of provisions for Camp Harrison, and concerning this trip it may be



quoted: "October 6.—We moved early; one mile came to the river at the coal bank; found it was below the Vermillion half a mile; we took coffee; moved after the boat started down. The coal bank is on the east side of the Wabash. We went through a small prairie; crossed the river to the west side; went in on the head of a bar and came out on the lower end of another on the west side; went through a small prairie, then came to a big prairie, where the old Vermillion town was. We crossed the Wabash half a mile above the Vermillion river's mouth, before we came to the above town. Crossed the Vermillion river, took a south course through timbered land, and then through a prairie with a good spring and an old Indian hut, then through a beautiful timbered ground to a small creek, and stopped to let our horses graze; then went through a good land with a ridge on our right out of which came four springs, and for two miles nothing but large sugar and walnut. The hill and the river came close together. We found a good coal bank fourteen miles below Vermillion. We then crossed to the east side, went three miles and camped with the boat; after coming twenty miles and finding two bee trees, left them."

An entry was made on the 31st as follows:

"We moved early. Two of the oxen missing. Three of our men sent to hunt for them. We crossed Raccoon creek. Saw our men who went to guard the boats on the 29th; they left us. We came to the river where we camped on our return from Vermillion on the night of the 6th; thence up to the ford. Saw our boat guard just crossing the river. We halted till the army came up, then rode the river, which was very deep, then camped. Our boat-guard and the men who went to hunt the oxen came up, when we left the guards. We took a north course up the east side of the Wabash, crossed to the west, with orders to kill all the Indians we saw. Fine news! The governor's wagon was left this morning in consequence of the oxen being lost. All the army crossed in three hours. We drew corn.

"Friday, November 1—I was sent with eighteen men to look for a way for the army to cross Little Vermillion. Marched at daybreak; came to the creek; found and marked the road; waited till the army came up; went on and camped on the river two miles below the Big Vermillion; Captain Spencer, myself and three others went up the Big Vermillion; returned to camp. General Wells, with forty men, and Captain Berry, with nine men, had come up. Our camp marched in front today, as usual, which now consisted of thirty-seven men, in consequence of Captain Berry and Lindley being attached to it.

"Saturday, November 2.—A fine day. Captain Spencer, with ten men, went out on a scout. Our company not parading as usual, the Governor

threatened to break the officers. I staid in camp. The army staid here to build a block house on the bank of the Wabash three miles below Vermillion, in a small prairie. The house twenty-five feet square, and a breastwork from each corner next the river down to the water. Took horses and drew brush over the prairie to break down the weeds. This evening a man came from the garrison; said last night his boat was fired upon. One man, who was asleep, was killed. Three boats came up, unloaded; went back, taking a sick man with them. One of Captain Bobb's men died tonight."

"Sunday, the 3d.—A cloudy day. We moved early. Our company marched on the right wing today. Crossed the big Vermillion, through a prairie six miles, through timber, then through a wet prairie with groves of timber in it," etc.

Thus has been quoted all of General Tipton's journal that pertains to the march through Vermillion county. Under date of November 7, 1811, he gives an account of the battle of Tippecanoe, in a paragraph scarcely longer than the average of his journal, as if unaware that this action was of any greater importance than an insignificant skirmish. Tipton was promoted from rank to rank until he was finally made general. His orthography, punctuation, etc., were so bad we conclude not to follow it in the above extracts, save in a few cases, like spelling "staid."

Nearly every entry in his daily journal not quoted opens with the statement that the weather is very cold. He also makes occasional reference to the soldiers drawing their rations of whisky, from one to four quarts at a time.

In Harrison's march to Tippecanoe his boats (pirogues) could not pass Coal Creek bar, spoken of above, under date of October 31st, and for their protection he built a stockade fort at the head of Porter's eddy, the precise location being the northeast quarter of section 9, township 17, range 9 west. Here he left the sergeant and ten men to guard them. The remains of the heavy timbers were still to be plainly observed in 1839. Corduroy or pole bridges, buried in mud, might have been seen in 1890, on the spring branches on the farms of Hon. John Collett, S. S. Collett and the Head family, sections 9 and 15, township 17, range 9 west. General Harrison also had caches (places for the safe keeping and hiding of food) in this county along the Wabash.

According to the treaties, General Harrison made a purchase for the government, the northern line of which, west of the Wabash, extended from a point directly opposite the mouth of the big Raccoon creek northwesterly. This tract was opened for white settlement long before the southern portion of the county was, which remained in the possession of the Kickapoos and Pottawatomies for a few years longer.

## CHAPTER III.

### THE FIRST WHITE SETTLEMENT.

The date of the first settlement by white men in Vermillion county was 1816. The location was the southeast corner of section 9, township 14, range 9 west, where John Vannest and a man named Hunter, who was by occupation also a hunter, had ventured west of the Wabash to select land for making a permanent home. This point was about a mile north of where now stands the thriving city of Clinton. Here they halted first for the night. Hunter soon secured a deer, which he killed, and thus they were provided with a fine supper. In the morning, after gazing about for a few minutes only, Mr. Vannest decided that that would be as good a location as he would probably find. Then he returned to his temporary home at Fort Harrison, four miles north of present Terre Haute, and waited a short time for the day of the government land sales to arrive at Vincennes. He then entered three-quarters of section 9, and later purchased the other quarter of the same section of William Bales. This land is on the second bottom, very high and beautifully undulating, but was originally heavily covered with excellent timber. Had he gone a little further to the north he would have discovered a beautiful little prairie, which would be land already cleared for him; but this point was either unknown to him, or else it was too near, or even over, the line between the government land and that of the Indians. Again, at that day it was a question in the minds of settlers as to whether the prairie lands could be profitably cultivated and dwelt upon with safety and comfort the year about on account of the cold winds.

On these finely situated lands of timber Mr. Vannest settled, bringing with him his wife and several children. Erecting first a log cabin on the west side of his land, he occupied it for a long period, when he built a large brick residence, from bricks he had made near by. This was Vermillion county's first brick structure. The brick-mason employed was a Mr. Jones from near Newport. Years afterward this residence was considered unsafe and was torn down.

The lands Mr. Vannest obtained remain mostly (or did a few years since) in the name of his descendants, and it is a remarkable fact that from

this land no less than forty-five men entered the service of their country during the great Civil war from 1861 to 1865—a loyal spot indeed, and its inhabitants all defenders of the "Stars and Stripes."

John Vannest, Jr., son of the first settler Vannest, was the first white child born in Vermillion county, although it has been sometimes stated that the first was Hon. William Skidmore, of Helt township. John Vannest, Sr., died at the age of sixty-two years on September 28, 1842, and his wife Mary died August 29, 1824, aged forty-four years, both being buried in the Clinton cemetery, north of town. One of their daughters, Sarah, who became the widow of Scott Malone, was the oldest woman resident of Clinton county in 1889, and used to recall the time when the girls, as well as boys, had to "go to meeting" and to school barefooted, sometimes walking and other times going on horseback. The schools and religious services were held in the then popular log school house, with puncheon floor, mud-and-stick chimney, flat rails for benches, a slab pinned up for a writing desk, and greased paper for windows.

Mrs. Malone and her twin sister, born August 6, 1812, hence four years of age when the parents moved to Vermillion county, were remarkable from the fact that they so nearly resembled one another that even in womanhood one was mistaken for the other, even by their own children. The twin sister was Jane, who married Thomas Kibby, and died in March, 1880. Records left by these worthy women have materially aided the present historian.

Mrs. Vannest had two narrow escapes from death at the hands of the Indians. This came about as follows: Two white soldiers at Camp Harrison became engaged in a quarrel one day, and one of them, in attempting to shoot the other, carelessly missed his aim and killed an Indian squaw beyond. Thereupon the red-skins vowed that they would kill the first "white squaw" they saw who should cross to the west side of the Wabash. Accordingly, they watched their opportunity, and made two attempts to take the life of Mrs. Vannest. In the first instance her life was saved by the timely interference of a friendly Indian, and the other time by the violent interference of her relatives and friends. Soon after this her husband took her back to Fort Harrison, where she remained until the affair had been partially forgotten by the Indians.

The above will suffice on the first settlement of this county, and this brief description will be followed up in the histories of the various townships.



## GREAT SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS.

At an early day there were several circular "hunts" or "drives." The largest competitive chase held in the county lasted three months. Two leaders were chosen, who picked their men and divided the neighborhood into two parties for a compass of ten miles: they were to bring in the scalps of the slain animals at the end of three months, and the leader who showed the most scalps could demand five gallons of the best whisky, as a treat from the beaten side. A wolf, fox, crow, coon, or mink scalp was to be considered equal to five other scalps in their value. A squirrel or chipmunk scalp counted one. On the appointed day the opposing forces assembled. The committees began to count the scalps, and the task took them until three o'clock in the afternoon, when it was announced that there were seventy thousand scalps. Thus by a general rivalry, the settlers enjoyed the execution of a plan which proved the means of safety and protection to their homes and their crops.

## CHAPTER IV.

### ORGANIZATION AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT.

The territory comprising present Vermillion county is thirty-seven miles long from north to south and averages about seven miles in width from east to west. It is bounded on the north by Warren county, Indiana, on the east by the Wabash river (Fountain and Parke counties), on the south by Vigo county, and on the west by Edgar and Vermillion counties, in Illinois.

Vermillion was originally a part of Vigo county. In 1821 Vigo county was divided by the organization of Parke county, which comprised Vermillion as a part of it, and Roseville, on the Big Raccoon, was the county seat. In 1823, by act of the Indiana Legislature, Parke county was divided by the Wabash river, the part west of the river being organized as Vermillion county and named from the rivers. For many years the Big Vermillion river had been the boundary between the possessions of the Peaukeshaws on the south and the Kickapoos and Pottawatomies on the north, and during the period of ownership by France it was a part of the boundary between Canada and Louisiana.

Vermillion county was created by an act of the General Assembly, approved January 2, 1824. In order that it may be referred to as the generations come and go, and being assured that it is authentic, as copied from the minutes and journals of the General Assembly of the state, the full text of the bill is here given, and reads as follows:

"Section 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Indiana, that from and after the first day of February next, all that part of the counties of Parke and Wabash included within the following bounds shall form a new county, that is to say: Beginning on the west bank of the Wabash river, where the township line dividing townships numbered 13 and 14 north, of range 9 west, of the second principal meridian, crosses the same; thence west to the state line; thence north to the line dividing townships numbered 19 and 20 north; thence east to the Wabash river; thence south with the meanders of said river to the place of beginning.

"Section 2. The said new county shall, from and after the first day of February next, be known and designated by the name of the county of Ver-

million, and it shall enjoy all the rights and privileges and jurisdictions which to a separate and independent county do or may properly belong or appertain; provided always, that all suits, pleas, complaints, actions and proceedings which may before the first day of March next have been commenced, instituted and pending within the county of Parke, shall be prosecuted to final judgment and effect in the same manner as if this act had not been passed; providing also, that the state and county taxes which are now due within the bounds of the said new county shall be collected and paid in the same manner and by the same officers as they would have been if the creation of the said new county had not taken place.

"Section 3. Robert Sturgis and Samuel Caldwell, of the county of Vigo; Moses Robbins, of Parke county; William Pugh, of Sullivan county, and William McIntosh, of the county of Putnam, are hereby appointed commissioners, agreeably to the act entitled 'An act for the fixing of the seats of justice in all new counties hereafter to be laid off.' The commissioners above named, or a majority of them, shall convene at the house of James Blair, in the said new county of Vermillion, on the first day of March next, and immediately proceed to discharge the duties assigned them by law. It is hereby made the duty of the sheriff of Parke county to notify said commissioners either in person or by written notice of their appointment, on or before the first day of February next; and the said sheriff of Parke county shall receive from said county of Vermillion such compensation therefor as the county commissioners of said new county of Vermillion shall deem just and reasonable; who are hereby authorized to allow the same out of moneys in the treasury of said county, not otherwise appropriated, in the same manner as other allowances are made.

"Section 4. The circuit court of the county of Vermillion shall meet at the house of James Blair, in the said new county of Vermillion, until suitable accommodations can be had at the county seat; they shall adjourn their courts thereto, after which time the courts of said county shall be holden at the seat of justice of said county established by law; provided always, that the circuit court shall have authority to adjourn the court from the house of James Blair as aforesaid, to any other place, previous to the completion of the public buildings, should the said court or a majority of them deem it expedient.

"Section 5. The board of county commissioners of the said county of Vermillion shall within six months after the permanent seat of justice of said county has been selected, proceed to erect the necessary public buildings thereon.

"Section 6. The agent who shall be appointed for the sales of lots at the

seat of justice of said new county shall reserve and receive ten per centum out of the proceeds of all donations made to said county, and also out of the proceeds of all sales made of lots at the county seat of said county, and pay the same over to such person or persons as may be appointed by law to receive the same, for the use of the county library for the said county of Vermillion, which shall pay over at such time and place as may be directed by law.

"Section 7. The powers, privileges and authorities that are granted to the qualified voters of the county of Dubois and others named in the act entitled 'An act incorporating a county library' in the counties therein named, approved January 28, 1818, to organize, support and conduct a county library, are hereby granted to the qualified voters of the county of Vermillion; and the same powers and authorities therein granted and the same duties therein required of the several officers and persons elected by the qualified voters of Dubois and other counties therein named, for the purpose of carrying into effect the provisions of the act aforesaid, according to the true intent and meaning thereof, are hereby granted to and required to the officers, and other persons elected by the qualified voters of Vermillion county.

"Section 8. The said county of Vermillion shall have both civil and criminal jurisdiction over all the country north of said county, which is or may be included in ranges 9 and 10 west, to the northern boundary of the state.

"Section 9. The said new county of Vermillion shall be attached to the counties of Parke and Vigo, for the purpose of electing representatives to Congress, and to the same senatorial and representative districts to which said counties now belong, for the purpose of electing senators and representatives to the General Assembly, and to the first return district for the purpose of returning votes for electors of President and Vice-President of the United States."

For in excess of one year Vermillion county thus had jurisdiction over more than a hundred miles of country north and south, extending to Lake Michigan, within a few miles from the modern city of Chicago.

#### COUNTY GOVERNMENT.

In 1824 the county seat was located at Newport, where it has always remained. It was then within little else than a wilderness. The locating commissioners were: Robert Sturgis, Samuel M. Caldwell, William Pugh and William McIntosh, of adjoining counties. It is likely that a fifth commissioner was appointed, but did not serve for some unknown reason.



It is likely that the county seat was located at Newport on account of its central location, and also on account of the immense spring that gushed forth from the earth at that point. Again, there was located a grist and saw-mill on Little Vermillion river, and the people donated more liberally than was the case in other parts of the county.

After securing a seat of justice, the earliest acts of the county commissioners were recorded in a home-made book, manufactured for the purpose by the county clerk. It was left where mice worked and much of the records are not plainly made out. In March, 1882, as much of the mutilated book as was possible was carefully transcribed in a large well-bound book. This transcript begins with the minutes of the session of March, 1824, the year in which the county was organized, so really but very little of the original records have been lost. The first session was held at the house of James Blair, situated near the southeast corner of the northeast quarter of section 16, in township 16 north, of range 9 west. That was on the west side of the old wagon road leading from Eugene to Newport, about half way between the two towns.

The early records above referred to included the following paragraphs:

"At a special meeting of the board of commissioners of Vermillion county, begun and held at the house of James Blair, on Tuesday, March 23, 1824, and the commissioners, having their certificates of election and having taken the necessary oath, took their seats. Commissioners present, John Haines, Thomas Durham and Isaac Chambers.

"First. Ordered, that William W. Kennedy be and is hereby appointed clerk of the board of commissioners of Vermillion county for this session.

"Third. Ordered, that all that part of the county of Vermillion contained in the following bounds, to-wit: Beginning at the Wabash river, where the line dividing townships 13 and 14 crosses the same, thence with said line to the line dividing the states of Indiana and Illinois, thence north to the line dividing townships 14 and 15, thence east with said line to the Wabash river, thence south with said river to the place of beginning, shall constitute the civil township of Clinton; and that the election in said township be held in said township at the house of John Sargeant, in Clinton.

"Fourth. Ordered, that all that part of the county of Vermillion contained in the following bounds, to-wit: Beginning at the Wabash river where the line between townships 14 and 15 crosses the same, thence west with the said line to the center of township 16, thence east with said central line to the Wabash river, thence south with said river to the place of beginning, shall

constitute the township of Helt, and that elections for said township be held at the house of John Van Camp.

"Fifth. Ordered, that all that part of Vermillion county, contained in the following bounds, to-wit: Beginning at the Wabash river at the center of township 16, thence west with said central line to the line dividing the states of Indiana and Illinois, thence north with said line until it strikes the Big Vermillion river, thence east with said river until it empties into the Wabash, thence south with said river to the place of beginning, shall constitute the township of Vermillion, and that elections in said township be held at the school house in section 16, in township 16.

"Sixth. Ordered, that all that part of Vermillion county contained in the following bounds, to-wit: Beginning at the Wabash river at the mouth of Big Vermillion river, thence west with said river to the line dividing the states of Indiana and Illinois, thence north with said line dividing townships 19 and 20, thence east with said line to the Wabash river to the place of beginning, shall constitute the township of Highland, and that elections be held in that township at the house of Jacob Andrick."

Among the early journal entries are those relating to the appointment of constables for the following townships: Charles Trowbridge, for Clinton township; John Harper, for Helt township; Jacob Custer, for Vermillion township; George Hansucker, for Highland township. All the above proceedings were had on the first day of the first session of the board of commissioners.

Clinton and Helt townships remain unchanged to this day, but the other two townships have been made into three as follows: The line between Vermillion and Eugene townships is the line dividing sections 19 and 30 of surveyed township 17 north and 10 west, running east to the northeast corner of section 21, township 17 north and range 9 west, thence north a half mile, and thence east to the river; the line dividing Eugene and Highland townships is the line dividing sections 19 and 30 of township 18 north and 10 west, running east to the river; and from the northern side of Highland township has been cut off one tier of sections of congressional township 19 north, 9 west, and thrown into Warren county.

The first grand jurors in Vermillion county were appointed as follows: David W. Arnold, Horace Luddington, Rezin Shelby, Andrew Thompson, John Tipton, William Coffin, John Scott, Jesse Higgins, Morgan De Puy, William Hedges, John Vannest, William Boyles, James Andrews, James Harper, Sr., and James Davis.

The first petit jury was composed of the following gentlemen: Joel Dicken, Robert Elliott, James Groenendyke, John Thompson, Simeon Dicken, Isaac Worth, Lewis Zebreskey, Benjamin Shaw, Alexander Bailey, William Rice, Harold Hayes, Amos Reeder, William Hamilton, John Clover, Ralph Wilson, John Wimssett, Abraham Moore, John Maxadon, Joseph Dillow, Thomas Matheny, John E. Anderson, Obed Blakesley, John Van Camp and Joshua Skidmore.

The board of commissioners appointed "superintendents" of the school sections: Harold Hughes, for Clinton township; William Bales, for Helt township; James Davis, for Vermillion township; William Coffin, for that in 17 north, 9 west, in Highland township; Horace Luddington in 18 north, and Jacob Andrick in 19, also in Highland.

The first overseers of the poor in this county were: John Vannest, for Clinton township; James Andrews and Augustus Ford, for Helt; Zeno Worth and John Tipton, for Vermillion, and John Haines and William Gonger, for Highland.

John Collett was appointed "agent for laying out a county seat," and also for "selling such lots as were donated by John Justice and George Miner for the use of the county, such lands as were by them donated as more fully appears by their bonds."

Alexander Bailey was appointed the first collector in this county. "The County Library Fund" was in charge of James Blair, but such library, with all others in the commonwealth, was abandoned.

On the third day of this session the bills of the sheriff and commissioners appointed by the state government to locate the county seat were audited and ordered paid. William Fulton was allowed thirty-five dollars "as a sheriff in organizing the county of Vermillion," and also two dollars and fifty cents for obtaining a copy of the laws regulating the duties of the office of sheriff in new counties.

John Collett was authorized to receive a deed of the land for the county seat from John Justice, Josephus Collett and Stephen Collett, the land being "all that part of the west half of the southwest quarter of section 26, in township 17 north, of range 9 west, which may be south of the Little Vermillion creek should the same contain more or less."

The May, 1824, session of the board of commissioners met at the house of James Blair, but at once adjourned to the house of Josephus Collett, at Vermillion Mills. At this place Mr. Haines did not appear. The other two commissioners decreed that ferry licenses be seven dollars; "that the clerk

list all property liable to taxation for county purposes to the full amount allowed by law." The rate of tavern license was fixed at five dollars. The board entered an order that the seat of justice should be known as "the town of Newport." It was also ordered that the lots in said town be laid off according to the following form, viz: Lots, sixty-six feet in front and one hundred and eighty-one feet in depth.

The board divided the county into thirteen road districts, and the same were supplied by supervisors through appointment.

James Blair was permitted to operate a ferry at Perrysville, and the rate of crossing was fixed by the county board as follows: Wagon and five horses, seventy-five cents; wagon and four horses, sixty-two and a half cents; wagon and three horses, fifty cents; wagon and two horses, three shillings; man and one horse, one shilling; pedestrian, six and a fourth cents; neat cattle, four cents a head; hogs and sheep two cents a head.

At a point two miles north of Newport, John Gardner was authorized to operate a ferry across the Wabash.

During the first year of the county's history the board of county commissioners placed a license of ten dollars as a license to vend foreign merchandise for the remaining portion of the year 1824. This was the first "protective tariff" heard of in Vermillion county.

With the machinery set in motion, the newly organized county soon began to build for the future. Public buildings had to be constructed and roads and bridges made. Taxes had to be levied and collected, all of which kept the commissioners quite busily engaged for a number of years.

#### COURT HOUSES AND JAILS.

Vermillion county has had the following public buildings erected for its use:

At the June, 1824, session the county commissioners ordered a contract to be let for the building of a court house of the following description: Thirty-six feet in length and twenty-four feet in depth; containing two jury rooms, to be furnished with a window of fifteen lights and a door opening from each into the court room; the latter to have eight feet for a passage between it and the jury room; balance of sixteen feet to be finished, laid off and worked in a semi-circular form, in a workmanlike manner; with seats for the judges, bar and jury; with banisters to separate the said court and jury rooms, eight feet one from the other across said court house, at the distance of eight



feet from said jury rooms, except so much as may be necessary for the admission of persons in and to the bar and court, which said space is not to exceed three feet; and the said court room is to be furnished with three windows of fifteen lights each, and two good doors. Said building is to be erected on the southeast corner of the public square, of good substantial frame of a ten-foot story covered with joint shingles; and said frame to be settled on a sufficient number of eighteen inch blocks two feet long."

June 24, 1824, the board of commissioners met and awarded the contract for building the above described court house, for three hundred and forty-five dollars, the structure to be completed by the first of the following November.

Although the commissioners refused to accept the building when said by the contractor to be completed, it was used for courts and other public meetings of all kinds until another was erected of brick. The contractor was John Justice, to whom the county paid a part of the contract price, and he sued the county for the balance, and finally recovered the full amount, the supreme court ordering the county to pay in full, with the costs in the proceedings.

In the month of February, 1831, the county commissioners obtained plans for another court house, and advertised for proposals for furnishing the material with which to build it. James Skinner, being the lowest responsible bidder, was awarded the contract for furnishing the brick at three dollars and fifty cents per thousand, and Stephen B. Gardner was promised two dollars and fifty cents a perch for the stone. Other material was contracted for, and the court house was completed under the immediate supervision of the county commissioners, and was occupied until January 29, 1844, when, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon, it was partly destroyed by fire. The board met immediately and ordered the necessary repairs made. With the re-building and repairs thus made the structure served the county until 1868, when another court house was found necessary for the protection of the records and the transaction of the county's increasing business. Its cost was thirty thousand dollars. To this was added a wing on the west, in 1903, costing the county twenty-eight thousand dollars more, and this re-built structure is the present court house, which is a good brick building, of handsome proportions.

In July, 1910, the belfry of the court house was struck by lightning, causing a loss of fifty dollars, which was made good by the insurance carried by the county.



THE OLD COUNTY SEMINARY, NEWPORT.



VERMILLION COUNTY COURT HOUSE.



## COUNTY JAILS.

In June, 1828, four years after the organization of the county, the commissioners let the contract for the erection of the first jail in Vermillion county, the same being sixteen by eighteen feet in size, two stories high, of hewed timbers, with a partition of twelve feet for "debtors and criminals" room, lower story eight and a half feet in the clear, upper story eight feet, with partition as below, to be built of double timbers, eight by ten inches thick, or wider if convenient; roof to be of joint shingles, etc., etc. Samuel Hedges was the contractor, and the contract price was three hundred and sixty-nine dollars.

In connection with the same building was to be a clerk's room, fourteen by sixteen feet, one story high, nine feet in the clear, two fifteen-light windows, one door, etc. For this room, Mr. Hedges was to be paid one hundred and sixteen dollars. Both structures were completed on time and no difficulty arose between contractor and commissioners.

The present fine county jail, situated two squares to the east of the court house, is a combination of brick and stone. The brick portion, on the south, was a part of the jail built many years ago, and is now the sheriff's residence, while the main structure is of the finest grade of stone, cut and laid in an excellent manner. The jail proper was erected in the nineties at a cost of fifteen thousand dollars. On the site of this building was the old jail in which was hanged the only man ever legally executed within Vermillion county. This was in 1879 and is mentioned elsewhere.

## THE COUNTY ASYLUM FOR THE POOR.

Vermillion county has always been mindful of its unfortunate poor and at a very early date in its history provided a poor farm, which is still the comfortable home of this class. The land comprising this farm—a quarter section, two miles south of Newport—was first entered by Wilbur and Davis from the government and comprises the southwest quarter of section 3, township 16, range 9. Later Peter Smith became the owner, and upon it as security he borrowed a certain sum of money from the county; failing to pay, the land reverted to the county, and after a short time the authorities converted it into a poor farm upon which rude buildings were erected. These buildings on land worth thirty-five dollars per acre in 1886, became worthless, and in 1887 Vermillion county erected a splendid, up-to-date county infirmary, cost-



ing almost sixteen thousand dollars. It included a department for the insane. The structure was erected two stories high, with a basement under the whole area, which was forty by one hundred and eight feet. The original building, as completed in 1887-88, had thirty-two rooms for inmates, six of which were planned for the insane subjects; five rooms were set apart for the use of the superintendent and his family. This building was constructed by Moore & McCoy of Danville, Illinois. In 1887 the reports show that the average number of inmates was about twenty. Joseph Conrad, who was made superintendent in the spring of 1881, at a salary of six hundred dollars per year, served for many years.

Since then many additions and improvements have been made on the premises. The superintendent's report to the county authorities in 1912 show that there were then twenty-six males and fourteen females at this humane institution. The superintendent was Grant Knight.

#### COUNTY TREASURY ROBBED IN 1870.

Vermillion county was the victim of a bold robbery on Monday night, April 18, 1870, and the *Hoosier State*, published at Newport, had the following account of the affair, at the time:

Over thirty-five thousand dollars was stolen from the county treasury vault, which had been faithfully closed and locked by Treasurer S. B. Davis, who later became famous as the editor of the paper above named.

The doors were forced open by steel wedges, which were driven by a sledge. Neighbors heard the noise, but not distinctly enough to have their suspicions aroused.

The next day Orville White, who had just learned of the burglary, saw two men carrying a satchel across the farms about three miles north of Clinton. Calling two railroad hands to his assistance, they gave chase, calling upon the suspected fugitives to halt. They struck for the river, and leaving a portion of their clothing up the bank, began to swim across. Mr. White and his companions arriving, saw a farmer on the opposite side whom they knew, and hallowed to him to kill the rascals. Getting into shallow water, they drew their revolvers and fired at him. Mr. White then requested his assistant to watch the thieves until he could raise a posse to take them. Discovering a wallet in the river, Mr. White waded in and obtained it, and found it contained \$16,354. He then went home, mounted a horse and started for Clinton to raise a posse; but in the meantime the scoundrels reached the opposite shore, a mile below where they entered the stream, soon found two railroad

hands, and drew their revolvers upon them, commanding them to give up their clothing in great haste, as they "had got into a row and had to swim the river to save their lives." Returning to the river, they got into a skiff and floated down past Clinton under cover of the night, and thus succeeded in getting away.

It is thought that very skillful burglars must have pulled off this job. The following day, Mr. White learned that one of the assistants, whom he had hastily picked up from out a company of railroad men, near by, was the receiver of a large amount of money at that time, but was not present at the robbery.

On May 13th, \$5,210 more of the county's money was found in a satchel lodged on the roots of a cottonwood a mile and a half below where the thieves commenced to swim the river. \$15,320 was never found.

#### ASSESSED VALUATION BY PRECINCTS.

The subjoined was the assessed valuations in the various townships and corporations in Vermillion county in 1911:

Highland township	-----\$2,465,030	Dana (corporation)	-----\$ 486,395
Eugene township	-- -- 1,376,085	Fairview Park (corpora-	
Vermillion township	---- 1,940,000	tion) -----	110,140
Helt township	----- 3,202,720	Clinton City	----- 1,882,730
Clinton township	----- 1,959,605		
Cayuga (corporation)	--- 363,820		
Newport (corporation)	-- 402,720	Total	- - ----- \$14,180,645

#### COUNTY FINANCES, JANUARY, 1912.

From the county commissioners' report of the finances of Vermillion county for the period between January 1, 1911, and that of January 1, 1912, the following is extracted:

#### FUNDS.

Balances on hand January 1, 1911, and receipts from January 1, 1911, to January 1, 1912, \$503,600. Balance on hand in net cash, January 1, 1912, \$113,260.

#### RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS.

For the year ending January 1, 1912, the county officials made the following exhibit (H. T. Payne, auditor):

## RECEIPTS.

Balance on hand Jan. 1, 1911 -----	\$18,644.68
Treas. percentage and mileage -----	686.89
Township poor -----	7,031.44
Proceeds—poor asylum -----	1,005.38
Pub. printing and adv. -----	26.80
Board miners' examiners -----	3,068.00
Change of venue -----	248.50
Special judges -----	165.00
Jury fees -----	3.37
Int. from depositories -----	2,434.29
County tax -----	52,894.24
Miscellaneous -----	2,281.57
Clerk's fees -----	2,136.36
Auditor's fees -----	437.25
Sheriff's fees -----	400.28
Recorder's fees -----	2,431.85
Total -----	\$93,895.90

## DISBURSEMENTS.

Expense Circuit Clerk's office -----	\$ 2,366.58
Exp. County Auditor's office -----	3,544.94
Exp. County Treasurer's office -----	4,039.08
Exp. County Recorder's office -----	1,719.33
Exp. County Sheriff's office -----	3,036.00
Exp. County Surveyor's office -----	356.80
Co. Supt. and Teacher's Inst. -----	1,892.99
County Assessor's office -----	789.86
Coroner's inquests -----	398.45
County Health Commissioner -----	614.98
County Commissioners' exp. -----	636.20
County Council, Pauper and County Attorneys -----	772.00
Board of Review -----	301.50
Board of Truancy -----	222.75
Assessing -----	2,616.00
Township poor -----	5,004.78
Court house -----	1,484.04

County jail .....	975.49
County poor asylum .....	4,918.58
Orphan poor .....	2,484.25
Benevolent institutions .....	407.19
Insanity inquests .....	820.69
Elections .....	5.45
Soldier burials .....	500.00
Public printing .....	812.85
Roads and highways .....	50.75
Returning fines .....	17.00
Bridge supt. and engineer .....	114.00
Deficiency in school funds .....	1,332.47
Expense of game warden .....	6.00
Board of miner's examiners .....	919.75
Taxes refunded .....	86.87
Examination of public records .....	1,338.30
Bridge repairs .....	8,768.71
Change of venue .....	1,141.90
Special judges .....	165.00
Jurors—petit and grand .....	1,726.53
Official reporter .....	317.80
Bailiffs .....	451.50
Board of children's guardians .....	59.75
Juvenile court .....	444.79
Expense of court room .....	147.75
Criminal expense .....	85.43
County bonds .....	2,800.00
Cash on hand .....	33,200.82
<hr/>	
Total .....	\$93,895.90



## CHAPTER V.

### COUNTY AND OTHER OFFICIALS.

As far as can now be gleaned from the county records and state publications, the following is a list of those who have served as county officials in Vermillion county from the date of its organization to and including 1912 (dates given show when they were elected to office):

#### SHERIFFS.

February 1, 1824—William Fulton.  
September 8, 1825—Caleb Bales.  
August 14, 1828—Charles Trowbridge.  
August 28, 1832—William Craig.  
August 16, 1834—Allen Stroud.  
August 13, 1838—William Bales.  
August 8, 1842—Charles Trowbridge.  
August 20, 1848—Owen Craig.  
August 25, 1848—Eli Newlin.  
August 12, 1852—Richard Potts.  
November 18, 1856—James H. Weller.  
November 18, 1860—Isaac Porter.  
November 18, 1864—Harvey D. Crane.  
November 18, 1868—Jacob S. Stephens.  
November 18, 1872—Lewis H. Beckman.  
November 18, 1876—Spencer H. Dallas.  
November 18, 1880—William C. Myers.  
November 18, 1884—John A. Darby.  
November, 1888—William Rheuby.  
November, 1890—Michael Maher.  
November, 1892—Josephus C. Dillow.  
November, 1894—John M. Roberts.  
November, 1896—John M. Roberts.  
November, 1900—James A. Swayne.  
November, 1904—J. H. Stephens.

November, 1906—Robert J. Hasty.  
 November, 1908—Morton Hollingsworth.  
 November, 1910—Steve McCown.  
 November, 1912—Steve McCown.

COUNTY RECORDERS.

April, 1824—James Thompson (declined to serve).  
 September, 8, 1824—William Kennedy (died in office).  
 August 29, 1826—James T. Pendleton.  
 August 27, 1827—Stephen B. Gardner.  
 June 8, 1833—John W. Rush.  
 April 22, 1838—Alexander B. Florer.

By the provisions of the new state law, the offices of recorder and clerk, which had, prior to 1852, been a combined office, were at that date changed, making two separate offices. After this change the recorders were:

April 22, 1852—Alexander B. Florer.  
 November 2, 1861—Andrew F. Adams.  
 November 2, 1865—Robert E. Stephens.  
 November 2, 1874—Jacob A. Souders.  
 October 26, 1878—Cornelius S. Davis.  
 November 13, 1886—Melville B. Carter.  
 November, 1890—John B. Groves.  
 November, 1894—George H. Fisher.  
 November, 1898—George H. Fisher.  
 November, 1902—Albert K. Mahan.  
 November, 1906—J. S. Stephens.  
 November, 1910—Frank Johnson

COUNTY CLERKS.

The offices of county clerk and recorder were one and the same until 1852, after which they were separate offices—see above for the men who held the combined offices as far as is shown now by records.

April 22, 1852—James A. Bell.  
 April 22, 1860—William E. Livengood.  
 April 22, 1868—James A. Bell.  
 April 22, 1872—William Gibson.

April 22, 1880—James Roberts.  
April 22, 1884—Alfred R. Hopkins.  
November, 1886—Alfred R. Hopkins.  
November, 1890—John T. Lowe.  
November, 1894—James C. Crane.  
November, 1898—William F. Wells.  
November, 1902—William F. Wells.  
November, 1906—John A. Hughes.  
November, 1910—Manford C. Jones.

## COUNTY TREASURERS.

The list is not complete from the first to 1852, hence will not be given down to that date.

November 23, 1852—William Utter.  
November 23, 1854—George H. Sears.  
November 23, 1856—George W. English.  
November 23, 1860—James A. Foland.  
November 23, 1864—James A. Bell.  
November 23, 1865—Samuel B. Davis.  
November 23, 1870—James A. Foland.  
November 23, 1874—James Osborne.  
November 23, 1876—John H. Bogart.  
November 23, 1880—Henry O. Peters.  
November 23, 1884—William L. Porter.  
November, 1886—William L. Porter.  
November, 1888—William B. Hood.  
November, 1890—Peter Aikman.  
November, 1892—Peter Aikman.  
November, 1894—Edward B. Brown.  
November, 1896—Edward B. Brown.  
November, 1898—M. G. Hosford.  
November, 1900—M. G. Hosford.  
November, 1902—H. R. Southard.  
November, 1904—H. R. Southard.  
November, 1906—Albert K. Mahan.  
November, 1908—John A. Hughes.  
November, 1910—Andrew J. Huxford.  
November, 1912—Andrew J. Huxford.

COUNTY AUDITORS.

August 30, 1854—David Shelby.  
 June 7, 1856—Henry D. Washburn.  
 November 18, 1860—George W. English.  
 November 18, 1864—James Tarrence.  
 November 18, 1872—Thomas Cushman.  
 November 18, 1880—Elias Pritchard.  
 November, 1884—Elias Pritchard.  
 November, 1888—William M. Hamilton.  
 November, 1892—William M. Hamilton.  
 November, 1896—William P. Bell.  
 November, 1900—William P. Bell.  
 November, 1904—H. T. Payne.  
 November, 1908—H. T. Payne.  
 November, 1912—Roy Slater.

COUNTY SURVEYORS.

March 6, 1824—Greenup Castleman.  
 November 11, 1826—James Osborn.  
 August 30, 1854—John Collett.  
 November 18, 1856—Edward Griffin.  
 November 2, 1857—John Fleming.  
 November 2, 1859—David Shelby.  
 November 2, 1860—B. E. Rhoades.  
 November 2, 1861—Daniel Shelby.  
 November 7, 1862—James M. Lacy.  
 November 7, 1863—Buskin E. Rhoades.  
 November 7, 1864—John Davis.  
 October 28, 1865—Martin G. Rhoades.  
 October 26, 1870—William F. Henderson.  
 October 30, 1872—John Henderson.  
 October 30, 1874—Richard Henderson.  
 October 30, 1876—John Henderson.  
 October 30, 1878—Platt Z. Anderson.  
 November 13, 1884—Fred Rush.  
 November, 1886—Fred Rush.  
 November, 1888—R. A. Parrett.



November, 1890—R. A. Parrett.  
November, 1892—R. A. Parrett.  
November, 1894—R. A. Parrett.  
November, 1896—Fred Beard.  
November, 1898—Fred Beard.  
November, 1900—Robert Barnes.  
November, 1902—Oscar T. Zell.  
November, 1904—Carl H. Conley.  
November, 1906—James W. Thomas.  
November, 1908—Howard Zell.  
November, 1912—John H. Boe.

## CORONERS.

September 8, 1824—Matthew Stokes.  
August 29, 1826—Carter Hollingsworth.  
August 14, 1828—Matthew Stokes.  
August 28, 1832—Edward Marlow.  
August 16, 1834—Matthew Stokes.  
August 18, 1835—Peter J. Vandever.  
August 9, 1836—Alfred T. Duncan.  
August 14, 1837—William Malone.  
August 10, 1841—Leonard P. Coleman.  
August 8, 1842—William Malone.  
August 23, 1844—Durham Hood.  
August 25, 1848—Daniel C. Sanders.  
August 23, 1850—Joseph E. Hepner.  
August 12, 1852—Andrew Dennis.  
August 30, 1854—John Vanduyn.  
November 18, 1856—Robert Elliott.  
November 2, 1857—David Smith.  
November 18, 1858—George Luellen.  
November 2, 1861—John L. Howard.  
October 30, 1868—R. Harlow Washburn.  
October 30, 1870—Thomas Brindley.  
October 30, 1880—Hezekiah Casebeer.  
October 30, 1882—Thomas Brindley.  
November, 1884—Thomas Brindley.  
November, 1886—Thomas Brindley.

November, 1888—Thomas Brindley.  
 November, 1890—Thomas Brindley.  
 November, 1892—Thomas Brindley.  
 November, 1894—Robert J. Hasty.  
 November, 1896—Robert J. Hasty.  
 November, 1898—Robert J. Hasty.  
 November, 1900—Robert J. Hasty.  
 November, 1902—Robert J. Hasty.  
 November, 1904—Robert J. Hasty.  
 November, 1906—Carl H. Conley.  
 November, 1908—George W. Wells.  
 November, 1910—Isaac D. White.  
 November, 1912—Isaac D. White.

ASSOCIATE JUDGES.

This office was abolished by the code of 1852. The following were the associate judges down to the date of the doing away with the office:

April 22, 1824—Jacob Andrick.  
 February 4, 1828—Christian Zabrisky.  
 August 14, 1828—Joseph Hain (resigned).  
 April 22, 1831—John Porter.  
 August 19, 1831—Alexander Morehead.  
 March 4, 1835—Matthew Stokes (resigned).  
 August 18, 1835—Robert G. Roberts.  
 July 11, 1836—Charles Johnston.  
 August 9, 1836—Joseph Shaw.  
 April 22, 1838—Alexander Morehead (resigned).  
 August 27, 1838—Joel Hume (resigned).  
 August 11, 1840—Ashley Harris.  
 August 11, 1840—Eli Brown (removed from county).  
 October 17, 1842—James M. Morris.

PROBATE JUDGES.

This office was abolished with the incoming of the 1852 code in Indiana. Those who served while the office existed were:

August 14, 1829—Asaph Hill.  
 January 8, 1833—John W. Rush (resigned).  
 May 6, 1833—Rezin Shelby.  
 August 19, 1847—Francis Chenoweth.

## CHAPTER VI.

### MILITARY HISTORY OF VERMILLION COUNTY.

Vermillion county was not settled until after the war of 1812 with Great Britain, hence had no part in that last conflict with the mother country. It had a few soldiers in the war with Mexico from 1846 to 1848, but no regular organization from this county. The few who went from Vermillion county have long since been numbered with the dead. When the Spanish-American war came on in 1898, this county had no regular National Guard company, hence had no regular company in that decisive war with Spain. This leaves the military history of the county in that long-drawn-out struggle for the preservation of the Union—the Civil war,—and in this the county sent forth her full share of brave defenders. Many returned and many sleep beneath the Southern skies. Vermillion county may well be proud of its Civil war record, both as to the volunteers it sent to the front and the amount of money it furnished for the support of the families of soldiers, etc. To not have been loyal to the flag, here, was to be disgraced.

### JUST BEFORE THE CONFLICT.

The days just before the civil conflict came on were thrilling times, and no better index can be given here than to quote from the article written in the *Saturday Argus* of Clinton, by L. O. Bishop, giving his own observations of those perilous days. He says:

Our home seemed to be the storm center of the then hated abolition movement. "Uncle Tom's Cabin," Helper's "Crisis," Horace Greeley's *New York Tribune*, William Lloyd Garrison's *Liberator*, stories of the Revolution and such literature made up much if not all of the inspiration of the family circle. My grandparents, Hiram and Sabrina Bishop, and father, Francis Marion, were of New Hampshire and Massachusetts birth, and we all had indoctrinated in us a radical belief in liberty and hatred of all forms of injustice, of wrong by the strong upon the weak, and of slavery especially.

On mother's side of the family origin began in Ireland, and all her traditions and sympathies were against slavery and oppression. And right here I will relate an incident that occurred at the then thriving town of Perrysville.

My mother, who had come from Virginia before 1858, was making her home with the family of Ira Abdill. Now Mr. and Mrs. Abdill were ardent church members, and they were rigid in their adherence to church laws. If there was any one act that was unpardonable sin, an act that would eternally damn the human soul, it was novel reading. Some one tried to lead my mother away from the straight and narrow way by placing in her hands a copy of "Uncle Tom's Cabin." In the girlish innocence of her heart she saw no harm in reading that "Life Among the Lowly," and finally became so deeply interested in the story that one Sunday she sat and read past the dinner hour, utterly oblivious of the flight of time. Finally the good old mistress of the house broke into the room with the exclamation: "Why, Lin, what are you reading that holds you so? Don't you know it is dinner time? Some trashy novel I swan!" Mother laid the book down on the bed and flew to her work.

Mrs. Abdill, thinking she would just exercise authority over the character of the literature that came into her house, picked up the book in a gingerly way and began to turn the pages as though it were a message from Belzebub himself. Then she opened it at the title page and gave it a disdainful glance. She turned to the opening chapter and out of her curiosity began to peruse the lines in order to get some excuse to condemn the work.

She came to the heart-breaking scene of Eliza stealing through the darkness to the humble cabin of Uncle Tom to inform him that they had been sold and she was going to run away with her little babe. That was too much for the good old mother in Israel. Then she read the second chapter, and managed to get through the third safely, and the worst thing that happened to her was an aching heart and moistened eyes. And somehow she just wanted to know what was in the fourth chapter. And she read on and on and on. She forgot all care, all household labors, all religious rites and evening found the face of that dear old soul fairly glued to the thrilling pages of a story told by a woman that was setting the heads of the nations athrill with an abhorrence of slavery. And then Mr. Abdill, stern and firm in his convictions of religious duty, unbent somewhat. He, too, began to read the story. Finally it got such a grip on him that he took "Uncle Tom's Cabin" to bed with him and just lay there and read and read and burned the midnight oil until the wee sma' hours.

But when at last that family had finished the story of "Uncle Tom's Cabin" there was a changed tone in another home. A woman's hand had done the work. Perrysville felt the electric thrill, as was shown a few years later when the very flower of her manhood marched away amid waving flags and shouting multitudes in response to the President's call. I only mention this



incident to show how the quiet forces of God work in places and in ways unseen and unknown of men, to prepare the way for the advancement of still greater things.

That work of Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe set the world ablaze with hatred of human slavery. Everybody in the Wabash valley read it, or read about it. Its influence was subtle, but permanent. All those earlier years the agitation against human slavery had been pushed throughout the North with all the vigor of crusaders. The wave struck Clinton. Big, impetuous, sympathetic Hiram Bishop one day proclaimed upon Main street that from that moment on, he was for the abolition of slavery. The immediate provocation for the exclamation was the story of a slave-power outrage upon free-speech. The scandal spread like wild-fire all over the country. There lived here in Clinton a harness-maker, another old Easterner, named John Cowgill. He heard the awful story that a man in Clinton had come out for abolition.

Cowgill never stopped for a second to take thought as to whether it would be safe, but instantly blurted out that "Here is another one of those d—d black abolitionists." Cowgill's endorsement of the unpopular idea only added fuel to the flames, and there burst forth a storm of wrath against the two men such as they did not foresee.

"What!" cried a pro-slaveryite to my grandfather one day, "do you want to free the millions of niggers in the South, and have them coming up here into the North and competing with honest men for jobs. Do you want your daughter to marry a nigger? Shame on you for such scandalous sentiment."

But the storm of anger kept rising and growing hotter and hotter. And then one day grandfather Bishop came home in great trepidation. He was deeply stirred and uneasy. Something had gone wrong. Finally the family was informed that he had been notified that he and John Cowgill were to be hung as "black abolitionists." The threat stirred up a hornet's nest in the village of Clinton and one dark night a posse of men gathered with ropes and went out to hunt up John Cowgill and Hiram Bishop and hang them to the first tree they could find. At the same time another company of men got together and sent the "Regulators" sharp notice that the moment they began the hanging business there would be such a demand for ropes and trees that the supply would soon be exhausted. The real sentiment of the people had crystallized and taken on definite, defiant form and stood between two homes and the agents of an angered aristocracy that was then feeling the terrific blows of Lincoln's logic.

Further than stating that the cause of the Civil war was the great question of slavery, that had been the difficulty between the North and the South for many years, it will not be necessary to go into the details, all so well known to the reader of history. The war came on in April, 1861, and lasted four long, eventful years, and was finally decided in favor of the North and of the freedom of the black race on the American soil. Upon the election of President Lincoln, Republican, in the fall of 1860, over the split-up factions of Democracy, the more hot-headed people of the South rebelled and went out of the Union, South Carolina being the first to secede, and that state was soon followed by practically all south of Mason and Dixon's line.

The part taken in this war by the citizens of Vermillion county is best known by following the history of the various companies and regiments that had within their ranks men from this section of Indiana. Before going into the history of these commands they may be enumerated as follows: The Fourteenth Infantry, the Sixteenth Infantry, the Eighteenth Infantry, the Thirty-first Infantry, the Forty-third Infantry, the Seventy-first Infantry (later the Sixth Cavalry), the Eighty-fifth Infantry, the One Hundred and Twenty-Ninth Infantry.

The file of the *Hoosier State*, on July 31, 1861, had the following: "Capt. P. R. Owen, of the 'Clinton Guards,' arrived home on last Saturday. The Captain's sojourn in 'Secessia' has improved his appearance materially. He left the Fourteenth Regiment at Cheat River, eleven miles from Beverly, Randolph county, Virginia, and reports the Clinton boys all doing well and in excellent spirits.

"Captain Owen addressed between six and seven hundred persons in and around the Presbyterian church, on Monday night, going into detail concerning the march of the Fourteenth Regiment from Hoosierdom to the 'sacred soil,' and the full particulars of the battle of Rich Mountain, at the conclusion of which three cheers were given him by the interested audience. He left for Virginia yesterday, accompanied by the good wishes of his numerous friends in this community."

Another item in the same issue said, "Our citizens were aroused from their slumbers this morning by the ringing of the bell on the town hall, which was the signal for the departure of Captain Owen to join his gallant little band in Virginia. A large number of citizens, under command of James McCulloch, accompanied by martial music, proceeded to the residence of Captain Owen. In a few minutes he mounted his horse and was escorted to the east end of the bridge, where the company opened ranks as he passed to the front. John W. Vandiver, on behalf of the citizens of Clinton, delivered a well-timed

speech, suited to the occasion. Captain Owen returned thanks for the hospitality and warm welcome he had received since his return, and pledged the flag which the fair ladies had presented the regiment should be brought back untarnished and covered with glory and victory, he hoped. For himself, and those under him, he pledged loyalty and bravery on the field of conflict. Again three cheers went up for the Captain and his command. The Captain then rode proudly away to his duties in the far-off Southland."

TREACHERY IN THE REAR—"KNIGHTS OF THE GOLDEN CIRCLE."

Vermillion county was not exempt from national enemies at home and sympathizers with the South, though not as bad here as in other sections of Indiana. In his well written articles on "Reminiscences of Fifty Years Ago," by Editor Bishop, of the *Clinton Argus*, we are permitted to quote the following on this subject:

By the beginning of the second year of the Civil war the people of Clinton, in common with many other northern communities, began to find out that while the great conflict was bringing out the best and noblest in men and women, it was also bringing to light the basest, the weakest, the most contemptible and despicable elements of human nature. And reading the pages of history, we find that it was ever thus.

Whether this outcropping of sympathy with the slave power was due to natural, inherent wickedness, depravity and sheer deviltry, or whether it was mistaken zeal in what the actors believed to be a just cause, it is not my purpose now to discuss. The facts are bad enough, let alone hunting for theories upon which to condone them.

Scarcely had the men who could be spared gotten away than there began to be whispered about a mysterious brotherhood being organized all over western Indiana and eastern Illinois. At first the name of the secret organization was not known. Its purpose was securely locked within the breasts of oath-bound members. No one knew whom to trust any more. Warnings of physical violence began to appear at homes, in towns and country, if certain parties did not let up on their offensive activity in recruiting soldiers for the war. Mounted men were seen riding over the country at midnight. Depredations became more and more frequent and the losses heavier. Horses and cattle were missing and other acts committed, all of which, combined with the awful struggle at the front, made home life full of fear and anxiety. It finally cropped out that the name of this secret brigandage was the "Knights of the Golden Circle." The activity of this gang was so satanic and widespread that

for twenty years after the war to even hint that anyone had been a member of it, or was in sympathy with it, was enough to drive a man to political oblivion. People scored the Knights of the Golden Circle more bitterly than they did the men who were fighting openly for the Confederacy.

The condition here kept growing worse and worse, until public sentiment was at fever pitch. Secret service agents were detailed to hunt down the conspirators and bring them to trial. And some were caught in the drag-net. But not until after great mischief had been done. It needed but a spark to set off this magazine, and one day the explosion came in a way and a place no one had dreamed of.

There was at the time of which I speak, a low frame building at the northeast corner of Elm and Main streets. The Main street room was occupied by a man who kept a groggery. Licensed saloons were unknown then. This man had so far kept a discreet silence on the subject of the war, although it was generally believed that at heart he was in sympathy with the rebellion. Several of the boys had come home on furloughs. One of them walked past this groggery in his uniform. The proprietor flew into a passion at sight of him, and began to pour forth a tirade of abuse and insult. As the young soldier went on past, the fellow, thoroughly enraged, stepped up behind him and dealt the boy a blow that felled him to the street. Instantly he was upon his prostrate form pounding the boy and would have killed him, had not an older brother, seeing the affair, rushed to the boy's rescue. The incident spread over town like a prairie fire, and in a short time every returned soldier and able-bodied man was at the door of the shop armed to the teeth and ready for an emergency. That night the doors were broken in by a rush of men and in a few minutes it was literally wrecked. Every bottle and jug was smashed, every barrel of whisky was broken in with an ax and the place had a combined odor of whisky, beer, wine and tobacco and sour swill that would have made a starch factory smell like attar of roses. The proprietor was roughly notified to get out of town and to do it "d—d quick, too." He got out about 12:30 in the morning, and a hatless man was seen running out of the end of the old toll bridge, headed for the south. He never returned to straighten up his room or business affairs. The incident had one salutary effect after all. It showed the country that even the old men and those not physically able to stand the army service were not to be trifled with and it gave the Knights of the Golden Circle notice to keep hands off. And from that time on their activities in this part became less. But meetings were kept up in the southwest and arrangements had been made to help Morgan carry his raid into the North. However, the government's secret service brought the scheme to a sharp end.



## FOURTEENTH INFANTRY REGIMENT.

The company known as I of the Fourteenth Regiment of Indiana Infantry was formed at Clinton within less than a month from the time Fort Sumter had been fired upon by the rebels, at Charleston, South Carolina. Philander R. Owen was made captain of the company, and during the war was promoted to lieutenant-colonel, when John Lindsey was commissioned captain to succeed him. Captain Lindsey was enlisted as first lieutenant, and was mustered out June 24, 1864, on the expiration of his term. Upon his promotion to captain, William P. Haskell, who had been appointed second lieutenant of the organization, was commissioned first lieutenant to fill the vacancy, and was discharged November 25, 1863, for promotion in the Fourth Regiment of United States Colored Troops. James M. Mitchell was promoted from the office of second lieutenant to that of first. The colonels of the Fourteenth, in succession, were Nathan Kimball, of Loogootee, who was promoted brigadier-general; William Harrow, of Vincennes, also promoted, and John Coons, of Vincennes, who was killed in the battle of Spottsylvania Court-House, Virginia, May 12, 1864.

From the adjutant-general's and other state reports on the Indiana troops, it is learned that the Fourteenth Regiment was originally organized at Camp Vigo, near Terre Haute, in May, 1861, as one of the six regiments of state troops accepted for one year. Upon the call for three-year troops the regiment volunteered for that service. The new organization was mustered into the United States service at Terre Haute, June 7, 1861, being the first three-year regiment mustered into service in the whole state of Indiana. On its organization there were one thousand one hundred and thirty-four men and officers. They left Indianapolis July 5th, fully armed and equipped, for the seat of war in western Virginia. They served on outpost duty until October, when they had their first engagement on Cheat Mountain, with Lee's army; losing three killed, eleven wounded and two prisoners. Their second engagement was virtually in the same battle at Greenbrier, October 3, when they lost five killed and eleven wounded.

March 23, 1862, under General Shields, Colonel Kimball and Lieutenant-colonel Harrow, they participated in the decisive battle of Winchester, where they lost four killed and fifty wounded, when "Sheridan was twenty miles away," as the poet puts it.

Besides a great deal of marching and other military duty, they marched three hundred and thirty-nine miles between May 12 and June 23, a part of which time most of the men were without shoes and short of rations. In July,

for about twenty days, they were kept on outpost duty in the Army of the Potomac, coming in contact with the enemy almost day and night. August 17th, they participated in that great battle of Antietam, serving in Kimball's brigade of French's division, it being the only portion of the line of battle that did not, at some time during the engagement, give way. On this account the men received from General French the title of "Gibraltar Brigade." For four hours the Fourteenth was engaged within sixty yards of the enemy's line, and, after exhausting sixty rounds of cartridges, they supplied themselves with others from the boxes of their dead and wounded companions. In this fight the men were reduced in number from three hundred and twenty to one hundred and fifty. Subsequently, they were still further reduced at the battle of Fredericksburg.

April 28, 1863, being a little recruited by some of the wounded recovering, they were at the front in the famous battle of Chancellorsville, as well as at the desperate battle of Gettysburg, the turning-point of the Civil war. After that battle they engaged in several severe fights, and some of the men re-enlisted, December 24, 1863. This truly noble, brave regiment—what was left of it—was finally mustered out at Louisville, Kentucky, July 12, 1865. If Vermillion county had not been represented by another regiment in the Civil strife, it would have reason to be proud of its soldiery.

#### THE SIXTEENTH INDIANA INFANTRY.

This regiment was organized May, 1861, as a one-year regiment, containing some volunteers from Vermillion county. Pleasant A. Hackleman, of Rushville, was the first colonel, and on his promotion to the brigadier-generalship, Thomas J. Lucas, of Lawrenceburg, was placed as colonel. Horace S. Crane, of Clinton, this county, was mustered in as second lieutenant of Company I, and mustered out with the regiment as sergeant.

May 27, 1862, this regiment was re-organized for the three-year service, but was not mustered in until August 19th. On the 30th of the month last named, it took part in the battle of Richmond, Kentucky, losing two hundred men killed and wounded and six hundred prisoners! After the defeat the prisoners were paroled and sent to Indianapolis, and were exchanged November 1st. The regiment afterward participated in the Vicksburg campaign, and did great duty in Texas and at Arkansas Post, where it was first to plant the flag of the Union within the fort. Its loss was seventy-seven men, killed and wounded. In April it participated in a successful engagement at Port Gibson, and during the ensuing several months it was engaged in the siege of Vicks-

burg, in which it lost sixty men, killed and wounded. Later, it had several skirmishes with the rebels in Louisiana, and, in the expedition up Red river, sixteen engagements. The regiment was mustered out at New Orleans, June 30, 1865.

#### THE EIGHTEENTH INDIANA INFANTRY.

Company C of the Eighteenth Regiment of Volunteer Infantry, from Indiana, was made up wholly of Vermillion county's noble sons, and all its officers in the roster are credited to Newport. John C. Jenks was promoted from captain to major; James A. Bell, from first lieutenant to captain; Josiah Campbell and William B. Hood, from private to captain; Harvey D. Crane and Oscar B. Lowrey, from sergeants to first lieutenants; William H. Burtut was promoted from private to first lieutenant; William M. Mitchell, from private to second lieutenant; William W. Zener from first sergeant to second lieutenant, and then to adjutant; Jasper Nebeker was second lieutenant and died in the service; Robert H. Nixon and John Anderson were sergeants; and corporals included Samuel B. Davis, soon disabled by disease, and later well-known throughout Indiana as the talented, fearless Republican editor of the *Hoosier State*, at Newport, this county. John F. Stewart, James O. Boggs, Alonzo Hostetter, Aaron Hise, James Henry, Charles Gerresh and John A. Henry were also corporals. John F. Leighton, of the recruits, was promoted from the ranks to the position of corporal. Hugh H. Conley, another recruit, subsequently became a prominent citizen of Vermillion county.

The first colonel of the Eighteenth Regiment was Thomas Pattison, of Aurora, and upon his resignation, June 3, 1862, Henry D. Washburn, of Newport, succeeded him. The latter was brevetted brigadier-general December 15, 1864, and mustered out July 15, 1865. The first service rendered by this regiment, which was mustered in August 16, 1861, was in Fremont's march to Springfield, Missouri. Soon afterward, at Black Water, it participated in the capture of a large number of prisoners. In March, 1862, it was engaged in the fierce contest at Pea Ridge, where its brigade saved from capture another brigade, and the Eighteenth re-captured the guns of the Peoria Artillery. After several smaller engagements in Arkansas it returned to southeastern Missouri, where it was on duty during the ensuing winter. The following spring it was transferred to Grant's army, and, as part of the division commanded by General Carr, participated in the flanking of the enemy's position at Grand Gulf, and May 1st, in the battle of Port Gibson, captured a stand of colors and some artillery; also on the 15th, at Champion's Hill, and on the 17th, at Black River Bridge. From the 19th till July 4th, it was employed in

the famous siege of Vicksburg, where, during the assault, it was the first regiment to plant its colors on the enemy's works.

After the capitulation of Vicksburg, July 4, 1863, the regiment moved to New Orleans, and during the autumn following participated in the campaign up the Teche river and in the operations in that part of Louisiana. November 12th it embarked for Texas, where on the 17th it was engaged in the capture of Mustang Island, and also in the successful attack on Fort Esperanza on the 26th. After a furlough in the winter and spring of 1864, it joined General Butler's forces at Bermuda Hundred, in July, where it had several severe skirmishes. August 19th, it joined General Sheridan's Army of the Shenandoah. In the campaign that followed, the regiment participated in the battle of Opequon, losing fifty-four killed and wounded; also in the pursuit of Early, seven killed and wounded; and in the battle of Cedar Creek, October 19th, losing fifty-one killed and wounded, besides thirty-five prisoners.

From the middle of January, 1865, for three months, the Eighteenth was assisting in building fortifications at Savannah. May 1st, it was the first to raise the Stars and Stripes at Augusta, Georgia. The regiment was mustered out August 28, 1865.

#### THE THIRTY-FIRST INDIANA INFANTRY.

This regiment had a number of volunteers from Vermillion county. It was organized at Terre Haute, September 15, 1861, for three years service. The colonels were: Charles Cruft, of Terre Haute; John Osborn, of Bowling Green; John T. Smith, of Bloomfield, and James R. Hollowell, of Bellemore. It participated in the decisive battle of Fort Donelson; was in the battle of Shiloh, where it lost twenty-two killed, one hundred and ten wounded and ten missing; in the siege of Corinth; was stationed at various places in Tennessee; was engaged in the battle of Stone River and Chattanooga, of the Atlanta campaign, Nashville, etc., and was on duty in the Southwest until late in the autumn of the year 1865, many months after the termination of the war.

#### THE FORTY-THIRD INFANTRY REGIMENT.

Vermillion county sent out Company I of this regiment. Samuel J. Hall was captain from the date of muster, October 9, 1861, to January 7, 1865, the close of his enlistment, and then Robert B. Sears was captain until the regiment was mustered out. He was promoted from the position of corporal to that of first lieutenant, and finally to that of captain. David A. Ranger, of



Toronto, this county, was first lieutenant; William L. Martin, of Newport, was first the second and then the first lieutenant. George W. Shewmaker was second lieutenant for the first seven or eight months. John Lovelace was first a private and then second lieutenant.

George K. Steele, of Rockville, was colonel of the regiment until January 16, 1862; William E. McLean, of Terre Haute, until May 17, 1865, and John C. Major, from that date till the mustering out of the regiment.

The first engagement had by this regiment was at the siege of New Madrid and Island No. Ten. It was attached to Commodore Foote's gun-boat fleet in the reduction of Fort Pillow, serving sixty-nine days in that campaign. It was the first Union regiment to land in the city of Memphis, and, with the Fifty-sixth Indiana, constituted the entire garrison, holding that place for two weeks, until reinforced. In July, 1862, the Forty-Third was ordered up White River, Arkansas, and later to Helena. At the battle at this place, a year afterward, the regiment was especially distinguished, alone supporting a battery that was three times charged by the enemy, repulsing each attack, and finally capturing a full Rebel regiment larger in point of numbers than its own strength.

It aided in the capture of Little Rock, where, in January, 1864, the regiment re-enlisted, when it numbered four hundred. Next it was in the battle of Elkin's Ford, Jenkin's Ferry, Camden and Mark's Mills, near Saline river. At the latter place, April 30th, the brigade to which it was attached, while guarding the train of four hundred wagons returning from Camden to Pine Bluffs, was furiously attacked by six thousand of General Marmaduke's cavalry. The Forty-third lost nearly two hundred in killed, wounded and missing in this engagement. Among the captured were one hundred and four re-enlisted veterans.

After this, the regiment came home on a furlough, but while enjoying this vacation they volunteered to go to Frankfort, Kentucky, which was then being threatened by Morgan's raiders. They remained there until the Rebel forces left central Kentucky. For the ensuing year it guarded the Rebel prisoners at Camp Morton, at Indianapolis. After the war ended, it was among the first regiments mustered out, this taking place at Indianapolis, June 14, 1865. Of the one hundred and sixty-four men captured from the regiment in Arkansas and taken to the Rebel prison at Tyler, Texas, twelve died.

## SEVENTY-FIRST INFANTRY (LATER THE SIXTH CAVALRY).

Company A of this regiment was exclusively from Vermillion county. Andrew J. Dowdy, of Clinton, was captain; Robert Bales, of Clinton, first lieutenant; William O. Norris, of the same place, second lieutenant, killed at the battle of Richmond, Kentucky; Joseph Hasty, from Newport, succeeded him as second lieutenant; first sergeant, William O. Washburn, of Clinton; sergeants, Francis D. Weber, of Newport; Johnson Malone, Alexander M. Steats and George W. Scott, of Clinton; corporals, Joseph Brannan, Richard M. Rucker, Lewis H. Beckman, Larkin Craig, Daniel Buntin, Reuben H. Clearwaters, John L. Harris and Charles Blanford; musicians, George W. Harbison and James Simpson. Most of these were credited to Clinton, though some of them, as well as privates which were credited to Clinton, and some to Newport, were residents of Helt township.

The colonel of this regiment was James Biddle, of Indianapolis. At first this regiment was organized as infantry, at Terre Haute, in July and August, 1862. Its first duty was to repel the invasion of Kirby Smith in Kentucky. August 30th, it was engaged in the battle of Richmond, Kentucky, with a loss of two hundred and fifteen killed and wounded and three hundred and forty-seven prisoners. After the latter were exchanged, four hundred men and officers of the regiment were sent to Muldraugh's Hill to guard trestle work, and on the following day they were attacked by a force of four thousand Rebels under the command of Gen. John H. Morgan, and after an engagement of an hour and a half were surrounded and captured. The remainder of the regiment then returned to Indianapolis, where they remained until August 26, 1863.

During the ensuing autumn, with two additional companies, L and M, they were organized as cavalry, and were sent into eastern Tennessee, where they engaged in the siege of Knoxville and in the operations against General Longstreet, on the Holston and Clinch rivers, losing many men in killed and wounded. May 11, 1864, they joined Gen. W. T. Sherman's army in front of Dalton, Georgia, where it was assigned to the cavalry corps of the Army of the Ohio, commanded by General Stoneman. They engaged in the battle of Resaca, also Cassville, Kenesaw Mountain, etc., aided in the capture of Alatoona Pass, and was first to take possession of and raise the flag upon Lost Mountain. In Stoneman's raid to Macon, Georgia, the Sixth Cavalry lost one hundred and sixty-six men.

Returning to Nashville for another equipment, it aided General Rousseau

in defeating Forrest at Pulaski, Tennessee, September 27th, and pursued him into Alabama. In the engagement at Pulaski the regiment lost twenty-three men. December 15th and 16th, it participated in the battle at Nashville, and after the repulse of Hood's army, followed it some distance. In June, 1865, a portion of the men were mustered out of service. The remainder was consolidated with the residual fraction of the Fifth Cavalry, constituting the Sixth Cavalry, and they were mustered out the following September.

#### EIGHTY-FIFTH INFANTRY.

Company D of this regiment was made up from the southern portion of Vermillion county. William Reeder, of Rockville, was captain until June 10, 1863, and thenceforward Caleb Bales, of Toronto, was captain, being promoted from the rank of second lieutenant. The vacancy thus made was filled by Elisha Pierce of Clinton, who was promoted from the office of first sergeant. The sergeants were James W. Taylor, of Toronto; William A. Richardson, John A. C. Norris and David Mitchell, of Clinton; and the corporals were Brazier E. Henderson, Ben White, Samuel Craig, James Andrews, Valentine Foos, Harrison Pierce, Joseph Foos and Wesley A. Brown. The musicians were Andrew J. Owen and John A. Curry.

The colonels of this regiment were John P. Baird of Terre Haute, to July 20, 1864, and Alexander R. Crane, of the same city, until the mustering out of the regiment.

This regiment was organized at Terre Haute September 2, 1862. Its first engagement was with Forrest, with Col. John Coburn's brigade, March 5, 1863, when the whole brigade was captured. The men were marched to Tullahoma, and then transported to Libby Prison at Richmond, amid much suffering, many dying along the route. Twenty-six days after their incarceration the men were exchanged, and were stationed at Franklin, Tennessee, where they fought in skirmishes until Bragg's army fell back. The following summer, fall and winter the Eighty-fifth remained in the vicinity of Murfreesboro, guarding the railroad from Nashville to Chattanooga. It took part in every important engagement in the Atlanta campaign, being in the terrible charge upon Resaca, and in the battles at Cassville, Dallas Woods, Golgotha Church, Culp's Farm and Peach Tree Creek. At the last named place it did deadly work among the Rebel forces.

This regiment followed Sherman in his famous march to the sea, and back through the two Carolinas, engaging in numerous battles. At Averasboro it was the directing regiment, charging the Rebel works through an open

field, but suffered greatly. It destroyed a half mile of railroad in forty minutes time, corduroying many miles of wagon road, and after a twenty-mile march one day it worked hard all night making a road up a steep, muddy bluff, for which they were highly complimented by Generals Sherman and Slocum, who had given directions for the work and were eye witnesses to its execution. After several other important improvements, it had the pleasure of looking as proud victors upon Libby Prison, where so many of them had suffered in captivity in 1862. Marching on to Washington, D. C., it was mustered out of service June 12, 1865. The remaining recruits were transferred to the Thirty-third Indiana Regiment, who were mustered out July 21st, at Louisville, Kentucky.

#### THE ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-NINTH INFANTRY.

Of this gallant regiment, Company K was from Vermillion county, and it was recruited from the tenth congressional district during the winter of 1863-64, rendezvoused at Michigan City, and was mustered into service March 1, 1864, with Charles Case, of Fort Wayne, as colonel, and Charles A. Zollinger, of the same city, as lieutenant-colonel. Of Company K, John Q. Washburn, of Newport, was captain; Joseph Simpson, of Highland, first lieutenant, and the second lieutenants in succession were Thomas C. Swan, of Clinton, Joseph Simpson, of Highland, William F. Eddy, of Warsaw, and James Roberts, of Clinton. Henry J. Howard, of Toronto, was sergeant. Corporals, Jasper Hollingsworth, Granville Gideon and John W. Nixon, of Vermillion county, with members from other counties. After much long marching, the first battle in which this regiment took part was the severe contest at Resaca, opening the celebrated campaign of Atlanta. This was a great victory for the Union troops. The next battle was that at New Hope Church. Before and after this, however, there was almost constant skirmishing, in very rainy weather. July 19, 1864, the regiment was engaged in a severe fight near Decatur, Georgia, where they lost heavily. Soon afterward they were in the fight at Strawberry Run, where they lost twenty-five men, but enabled General Hascall to turn a position which our forces, a brigade of General Schofield's corps, had failed to turn the day before. Then on until mid-winter the regiment was kept guarding and engaging in skirmishes. November 29th, occurred the battle of Franklin, where the enemy were repulsed with great loss. During the latter portion of the winter they were marching and battling near the coast of Virginia and North Carolina, and engaged in the battle of Wise's Forks, where the enemy met with signal disaster. The regiment was



engaged in provost duty about Raleigh during the summer of 1865, and on August 29th was mustered out of service.

#### CONCLUDING REMARKS.

The foregoing is but an outline of what transpired at home and in the Southland during the years of that long-drawn-out war, in which brother took up arms against brother, and in which family ties were broken asunder, never to be reunited again. While the soldiers above mentioned were doing their part bravely and well, in field and on march, those remaining at home were busy at raising funds with which to support and maintain the families of the volunteers, as well as in numerous ways help the general government to carry on the war, which all loyal patriots believed was a just war. Every township in this county had its aid societies and relief funds. Men and women were alive to the pressing demands for hospital supplies for the men who had been sent to the front. The county commissioners, from time to time, levied taxes for the furtherance of the cause in the field. Bounties were freely paid and each patriot vied with his neighbor in seeing how much he could do toward relieving suffering at home and in the tented field.

It is not possible to give a complete list of the soldiers from this county, and the larger part of those who donned the loyal blue, from 1861 to 1865, have long since answered the last roll-call, some being asleep under Southern skies, while the remainder are buried in home cemeteries and their graves are cared for and tenderly decorated with the return of each Memorial day. Be it said with a just pride, that Vermillion county was loyal to the Union cause. Its sacrifice was indeed great, but its victory was an eternal gain—an everlasting inheritance to the oncoming generations who shall here reap the just reward of liberty and union.

The records show that Vermillion county raised funds in Civil war days as follows:

Bounties -----	\$ 76,032
Relief for Soldiers' Families-----	41,839
Miscellaneous Funds -----	986
<hr/>	
Total -----	\$119,547

## ENTRIES FROM A SOLDIER'S DIARY.

The following paragraphs have been extracted from the private diary kept by Edwin C. Bishop, of Clinton, who was in the Engineering Corps of the Union army, and a member of the Eighteenth Indiana Infantry. These are chiefly paragraphs of letters that he wrote home to his parents and brothers, and throw much light on the inside life and private opinions of soldiers who marched and fought in the Rebellion from 1861 to 1865. Finally this brave man sacrificed his life at Cedar Creek, near the close of the conflict. We are indebted to L. O. Bishop, of the *Saturday Argus* (a nephew), for the manuscript transcript from which the following is quoted :

“Springfield, Missouri, Nov. 5, 1861.

“Friends at Home :—Since I wrote to you last there have been some stirring times out here. I did not think then that within three hours we would be on a forced march; but such was the case. We received orders to march immediately and started just at sunset. After marching twelve miles we stopped for the night, built our camp fires and slept by them. The next morning we took up our line of march and stopped at eleven o'clock to get breakfast. We cooked all our provisions and filled our haversacks, and got ready for a hard march and a fight. We had halted in a prairie and when we started the long line of soldiers showed to a good advantage; it was a nice little army of about seventeen thousand men. It was enough to make one feel like fighting to see so many in one line going onward to battle. In the morning the news came that we would have to cut our way through the Rebel army to Fremont; upon hearing this the enthusiasm became very great and the soldiers would press forward and ‘Forward’ was the cry. We got to within seven miles of Springfield that day and stopped to rest. After that we went to within a half mile of town, expecting to begin the fight in the morning. But we were disappointed, for in the morning Fremont went past and camped with his guards and Indians on the road to St. Louis, he having been superseded, and we found that Price was not near here. There is now an army of fifty thousand men here, who all expected to fight when they got here. We are under the command of General Hunter. We do not know, but many believe that we will be sent to ‘Old Kaintuck.’ Our tents came up today, so we are at home again. We have not got over our disappointment of not finding Price, after running all over the state. The dirty skunk has got away without our men getting a chance to see him. It is most time to get dinner and I will

have to quit before long. I guess I shall do some washing this afternoon. Lon is washing now. Give my respects to all,

“ED. C. BISHOP.”

---

“Little Sugar Creek, Ark., March 12, 1862.

“Dear Father :—I suppose it is with feelings of anxiety you receive this letter, for I suppose you heard of our great fight. When I wrote last I was on the picket, and that evening I was relieved and went to camp. That night about twelve o'clock we were ordered to cook two days' rations. The next morning we packed up our things and sent the wagons back about one mile. Then we went onto a hill not far from our camp and commenced throwing up earth-works. Our battery and the Eighth Regiment were on a hill to our left. That evening we heard the firing between Siegel and the Rebels. We had been fighting on a retreat from a cross hollow. The next morning we went to our wagons to cook some rations; but were soon ordered back to our breast-works; then we were ordered to the rear, as the enemy had come up on that side. By this time the firing had become very heavy and sharp. We came up in front of the enemy's right wing, composed of their best troops under McCulloch; they had Indians. I cannot tell you in words so that you will understand, so I will tell you some, and draw a plan of the field. White's brigade, composed of the Thirty-seventh and Fifty-ninth Illinois Regiments went in first, but were driven back, and then by a skillful movement the Rebels were driven back and our battery saved. This was the first day of the battle we were in; I was not in the second day; I got lost from the company in the night and was put on guard over the prisoners. I have not heard the loss on either side; but I think ours was about one hundred and twenty killed and two hundred wounded. I understand the Rebels left from two hundred and fifty to three hundred on the field. We have about three hundred prisoners. The Rebels left the field in a hurry, leaving several hundred stand of arms along the road.

“Good Bye for this time.

“E. C. B.”

---

“Helena, Ark., August 30, 1862.

“Friends at Home :—I am as well as could be expected and the company is in good spirits. I understand that five boats are to start for White river this morning. I do not know the object of the expedition; it may be a scouting party, perhaps it is going to gather cotton. It is rumored that the Rebels,

forty thousand strong, are advancing on this place, and these boats may be sent up White river to keep them from crossing, but I do not believe that there are that many Rebels in this state; however, if there are that many, I do not believe they can whip us. They are building some fortifications here which are to mount thirty-two-pounders. This seems to me to be a good place for a fortification, as the river can be seen for a distance of eleven miles down and four or five up stream, from a ridge that runs through town and it is separated from the bluff by a hollow. The ground is such that a battery could not charge upon, so the only way to dislodge troops would be to shell them or starve them out, either of which would be hard to do, as long as the river is kept open. I understand that this is to be the military capital instead of Little Rock. We are having very good times here, for since it has come to be the policy to subsist on the country in which the war is carried on, the boys have most everything this country is able to raise. No longer are the corn fields guarded, so that 'roasting ears' can be had without paying two prices or running the risk of getting into the guard-house. There is an old 'secesh' living in our camp or rather it was built around him. When we came here he had lots of bee hives; there are none now; but that is all right for he gave two thousand five hundred dollars to build gun-boats and was tanning leather for old Jeff Thompson; but the leather was not finished, so our men are having him finish it for us. At first taking wagons and other property belonging to the Rebels was a low thing; now it is the only thing that can be done. I have found out how the thing worked; every Rebel was out fighting against us, while the darkies raised corn; we will have to stop their supplies, and then give them a whipping.

"Yours, E. C. B."

---

"November 21, 1862.

"Dear Friends:—The sentence for sleeping on one's post is to forfeit one month's pay; march ten days, four hours a day, in front of the colonel's quarters, wearing a head-dress barrel bearing this inscription, 'I slept on my post.' "

---

"Patterson, November 18, 1862.

"Dear Friends at Home:—I will commence this letter tonight. I received those things you sent me, and the long letter; I tell you it does a soldier good to get long letters. Captain Bell brought some good butter from home and also a cooked chicken, which with the bread you sent me made a good breakfast; a real 'Hoosier breakfast.' The bread tasted home-like, and the



can of peaches which we ate for dinner was excellent—all acknowledged them the best they had eaten for a long time. Captain brought a can of peaches and I am going to make a pie of them. Now you may laugh, when I speak of cooking, but I tell you I can cook some. I and Lon went out of camp to try our rifles; for a long time I was busy cleaning my gun. You may think half a day a long time to be cleaning a gun; but it is as bright as a new silver dollar all over. I have a splendid rifle; it is a Springfield rifle and I would not take in trade for it one of the much boasted Enfield rifles. While we were out I saw a squirrel, and thought I would like to try my gun on him; so Lon went around the tree and made a noise and that scared the squirrel around to my side of the tree and I shot him. Well I must quit and go to bed; perhaps you would like to know about my bed. Well, we get corn stalks and put them on the ground and over them are spread two blankets and our oil cloth. Then we have three blankets over the three of us.

“There were some five or six thousand Rebels building winter quarters on Black river, but we went down and shelled them; they run, leaving all behind, and have not been seen or heard of since.

“Yours,

“Ed.”

---

“January 1, 1863.

“Today another year is ushered into Time’s great circle; another year to witness the unhappy state of our country. Shall this year see the end of this great war? I see by looking around me that all are of the same opinion and mind. None wish to see ‘63’ grow old and die without seeing the traitor meet his doom; without seeing the American eagle sit in peace upon the palmetto undisturbed by the serpent that crawls at its foot. How different the scenes of today and former New Year days, when all was peace. Then the cannon’s loud roar broke upon the ear telling only of joy and mirth; now that roar speaks of bloodshed and every boom sinks deeper into the heart as we think of the souls then sent and perhaps transported to meet their God. Then proud hearts that have long since gone to rest engaged in the merry dance and tried to lose sight of time for a little while. Those that are left are soldiers, tossed on the battle-stained waves of war; they are changed; time and hardships of a soldier’s life have made their impressions. The once light, loving heart has been turned to stone, by constantly coming in contact with scenes of strife.

“Yours,

“E. C. B.”

"Milligan Bend, April 3, 1863.

"Friends:—I do not feel much like writing. I came into my quarters last night and found those things you sent me had come. We got them up from the landing about ten o'clock and went to work to see what there was. Most of the things were spoiled; some cakes were good; but all the bread and pies were spoiled. Some of the green apples were good; they were quite a treat, for they are from fifteen to twenty-five cents apiece here now. The boots you sent were too large. Some of the furloughed boys are fast coming back into camp. We are fifteen miles from Vicksburg and twenty-five by river. No news from Yazoo, and we do not know what is going on around us, as much as you do there. We can hear the shelling at Vicksburg, whenever there is any going on there. Our position is at the siege as follows: First United States Infantry, Eighth, Thirty-Third and Ninety-Ninth Illinois, a battery of six pieces, siege guns and all stationed at the mouth of the canal opposite Vicksburg. We are in the Fourteenth Division and the Thirteenth Army Corps; our brigade is under General Baxter. I found a piece of poetry in the box you sent entitled 'Come Home.' I say:

How gladly would I do it,  
And stay with my friends for ever,  
But first let us down with the Rebels,  
That our Union are trying to sever.

"EDWIN C."

---

"Near Vicksburg, Miss., June 12, 1863.

"My Dear Sister:—I will send you a few lines to let you know I am alive and well. We had a battle at Champion's Hill. The Rebels run, as usual, and we had a fine time overhauling their knapsacks, which they left at Edwards Station. We all got clean clothes, tobacco, writing paper, etc. This sheet is one I got; captured enough to last for a while. We took in two or three regiments at the ridge; they stuck cotton in their guns and bayonets, when the charge began, and turned and run for the bridge. I have not found any good place from which I can make a map of this field. I went to a place and was trying to make a map of the field, but was shot at several times, so I left. The Rebels do not fire much. They opened a few guns this morning, but soon found that place too hot for them. Deserters come in all the time; they all tell different tales, and we do not know which to believe. But I guess they have hard times; one of the Iowa boys gave a deserter his breakfast, and he ate four crackers, one loaf of bread, a lot of potatoes and ham, and drunk five

cups of strong coffee. He told General Lawler that he had had but little for a week. We hear they can hold out fifteen days. The boys are in fine spirits. When they want a little exercise, they take their guns and go out to the rifle pits and take a few shots at the Rebels, if they can see one to shoot at. I have sent several dispatches to them to get in. What 'Rebs' are in the city are surely ours, unless they dig out under the hill. I guess after we get this place we will have to go over and help the boys in the Army of the Potomac; poor fellows, never were intended to fight, and not in the least frightened about Johnson. We will run him all over the state for a breakfast spell and take him in for dinner. I am now about four feet in the ground and feel perfectly safe. Write soon to yours,

"EDWIN."

## CHAPTER VII.

### EDUCATIONAL HISTORY OF VERMILLION COUNTY.

Article 7, section 1, of the constitution of Indiana, declared that: "Knowledge and learning generally diffused throughout a community, being essential to the preservation of a free government, it shall be the duty of the government by its General Assembly to encourage, by all suitable means, moral, intellectual, scientific and agricultural improvements, and to provide by law for a general and uniform system of common schools, wherein tuition shall be without charge and equally open to all."

No state or territory has manifested an equally profound and intelligent interest in the subject of education as has Indiana, commencing with the territorial existence in 1800. While the Congress of the United States, under the controlling influence of Jefferson, had been wise and far-seeing on this subject, yet it is a fact that in the organization of the new territories and states that body was more or less influenced by the men who approached Congress in the interests of the new municipality—men who were identified with it. And according to whom these men were and the suggestion that they would urge, would be many of the provisions in the enabling acts on the subject of schools.

Liberal provision had been made by the general government for popular education in all the Northwestern states. Before any of these states had been formed, while the general territory in which they were embraced was a wilderness, inhabited almost exclusively by savages, Congress, on the 20th of May, 1785, passed an ordinance reserving every sixteenth section of land in the whole territory northwest of the river Ohio for the maintenance of public schools. Two years later, in the famous ordinance of 1787, it was declared that "religion, morality and knowledge being necessary to good government and the happiness of mankind, schools, and the means of education, shall be forever encouraged."

In Indiana there was from the first a class of public-spirited men who were the friends and earnest advocates of popular education. In 1807 an act was passed by the General Assembly of the territory, for the incorporation of a university at Vincennes. The first board of trustees of this university named



in the incorporating act were men of large and liberal ideas of education. They reflected the true spirit of the framers of the ordinance of 1787. In the preamble to the incorporating act it was declared that "the independence, happiness and energy of every republic depended (under the influence of the destinies of heaven) upon the wisdom, virtue, talents and energy of its citizens and rulers; that science, literature and the liberal arts contributed in an eminent degree to improve those qualities and acquirements, and that learning had ever been found the ablest advocate of genuine liberty, the best supporter of rational religion, and the source of the only solid and imperishable glory which nations can acquire."

The only acts passed with regard to the school lands by the Territorial Legislature were those of October 26, 1808, and December 14, 1810. The former invested the several courts of common pleas in the territory with full power to lease the sections of land reserved for the use of schools in the several counties, restricting the leases to five years and making it obligatory upon the lessees to clear ten acres upon each quarter section. The latter act authorized the courts of common pleas to appoint trustees of the school lands in the several counties, and prohibited the wasting of sugar trees and timber thereon.

On January 9, 1821, the General Assembly appointed a committee to draft and report to the next Legislature a bill providing for a general system of education, with instructions to guard particularly against "any distinction between the rich and the poor." This committee drew up the first general school laws of Indiana. The space allotted us forbids even a catalogue of the various enactments of the General Assembly on the subject of the public schools since the organization of the state government. Almost every session has witnessed the passage of either general or special laws pertaining to education in some form, either to the common schools or the incorporation of seminaries, academies, colleges, universities or public libraries; and the successive governors of the state have favored the interests of popular education.

Vermillion county has always taken much care to provide the best schools possible, both public and private. The last log cabin school house was superseded more than forty years ago by the more modern frame and brick buildings. A quarter of a century ago this county had school buildings as follows: Clinton township, brick, three; frame, nine. Helt township, brick, three; frame, twenty. Vermillion township, brick, one; frame, twelve. Eugene township brick, one; frame, seven. Highland township, brick, one; frame, eleven. Total, nine brick buildings; fifty-nine frame.

In 1887 the estimated value of school houses and lots was \$59,000; of school apparatus, globes, maps, etc., about \$4,000. Number of teachers

employed in the county, eighty-five. The number of children of school age (from six to twenty-one years) in 1886 was 4,291, and the enrollment in the schools of the county was 3,467, or about eighty per cent.

In Clinton township the first school house was a log structure of the most primitive type, located at Davidson's hill, one mile northeast of Clinton. There the only school books were the English reader, Webster's elementary speller and the New Testament, with now and then a copy of Daboll's arithmetic. Since then a remarkable growth has been seen with the ushering in and carrying forward of the free public school system, which many in the state bitterly opposed at the time, because of their lack of wisdom.

Two or more attempts have been made to locate special educational institutions, including the one just before the Civil war, known as Myram G. Towsley's Military Institute and the Farmer's College, which went down on account of the coming on of the Rebellion in 1861. A portion of the large frame building that was to be used permanently for that institution was afterward converted into an opera house, and its wings into dwellings.

In Helt township the first school was taught prior to 1830, on the prairie.

Newport, the county seat, has always been a good school town, and kept abreast with the times in every advance made in improved educational methods. In pioneer days, according to the state law, a county seminary was established here, as in all other county-seat towns. It flourished until the going out of the old private or subscription schools and the introduction of that better plan of the present common school, the free school system, when it was converted into a graded school about 1852. The building was a brick structure. Additions were made to it from time to time and it was still in use in the nineties. Its location was on the heights overlooking the romantic scenes of the charming Little Vermillion river. Two of the additions were made by the town of Newport at an expense of one thousand dollars. The town purchased the property from the township, when the municipality took it over and has had charge of the same since 1886.

The advancement made in public school affairs in this county with the passing of a half century are indeed very great. This change is noted the more vividly, when one contemplates the old log school house down by the creek, or out on the prairies, in which were taught the simplest rudiments of an education, under the hardships of a slab seat, a puncheon floor, and a fire-place for heating the same in the long, cold winter day. It goes without saying that children of today ought to master their studies more rapidly and better than did their grandparents, and thank a higher order of Christian civilization for the most excellent school system that now obtains from one end of the country to the other. While there were many noble, brainy, well-

educated men of the Hoosier state who attended these pioneer schools, the larger per cent. of all those who attended those early-day schools never achieved any great educational accomplishments. All praise to the present public school system.

#### PRESENT STANDING OF VERMILLION COUNTY SCHOOLS.

The subjoined statistics will show the condition of the schools in the various townships in Vermillion county, according to the superintendent's annual report for 1912, including the items of teachers, buildings, wages, apportionments, etc.:

	School Houses.	Male Teachers.	Female. Teachers.	Daily Wages. Male.	Female.	Appor- tionment.
Clinton township -----	14	5	21	\$3.10	\$2.40	\$44.031
Eugene township -----	5	2	6	3.25	2.84	8,620
Helt township -----	13	5	21	4.00	3.12	32,509
Highland township -----	10	5	11	4.00	3.00	13,032
Vermillion township ----	11	3	7	3.30	2.79	10,781

The number of graduates from the high school last year was: Helt township, 11; Perrysville, 9; Cayuga, 3; Dana, 11; Newport, 8; Clinton, 19.

There is one Carnegie Library, connected with the city and township of Clinton. All of the district schools have small permanent libraries. The present county school superintendent, John B. Butler, has been serving in an acceptable manner since 1907.

By a school enumeration for Vermillion county, taken in May, 1910, the following facts were brought out concerning the school population: The number of school age in the several townships and towns of the county was as follows: Clinton township, 844; Eugene township, 331; Helt township, 804; Highland township, 478; Vermillion township, 366; Cayuga town, 212; Dana town, 206; Newport town, 163; city of Clinton, 1,468. The totals for the years 1907 and 1910, inclusive, were: 1907, 4,627; 1908, 4,818; 1909, 4,792; 1910, 4,872.

About 1904 the consolidated country school system was established in Helt township this county, and has proven a grand success. It gives the pupils a better, easier method of getting to and from school, and at no increased expense, all things counted, than under the separate school district system. This school is counted one of the "model" schools in Indiana. It is a delightful sight to see the several teams lined up ready to receive the children when school closes each day. They are carried in hacks to and from their homes, a radical change for the better. It is believed that this system will ere long become universal in the country school districts in the state.

## CHAPTER VIII.

### CHURCHES OF VERMILLION COUNTY.

#### PRESBYTERIAN CHURCHES.

The first denomination in this county to erect a house of worship was the Presbyterians, who organized at Clinton in 1831, aided by the Methodists. Running down in the course of years, in 1834 they reorganized their society, under Rev. John Gerrish, of Helt township, who died in the spring of 1887, in Kansas. In 1887 there were fifty-five members in the Clinton Presbyterian church, the ruling elders being at that date E. V. Brown and David McBeth. A Sunday school was then maintained the year round, with an average attendance of ninety pupils. Rev. L. G. Hay, D. D., of Terre Haute, was then serving as a stated supply for this church, commencing with February, 1887. Earlier pastors and supplies were Revs. James Boggs, in 1855; John A. Tiffner, two to three years; John Hawks, of Rockville, about the same length of time; Thomas Griffith, of Montezuma, four years, and L. H. Davidson. The first church building was converted into a barn. A new house of worship, erected about 1852, was a frame building, forty by seventy feet, located centrally, on the school house lot. The present church was erected of brick in 1896 at a cost of ten thousand dollars. Membership, one hundred and fifty.

Other pastors have been: Revs. William Mitchell, George McCollough, L. G. Hay, A. M. Hooke, J. P. Hutchinson, G. H. Hoffoce, E. W. Sanders, C. E. Fowler, H. W. White, and the present pastor, Rev. S. V. Sydenstricker, who began in March, 1910.

Toronto Presbyterian church was organized either 1850 or 1851, by Rev. Gerrish. The church, which was built during 1852, was a frame structure thirty by forty feet in size, and in 1890 was still in good state of preservation. Among the early members of the church were James A. Elder and wife, Samuel Elder and wife. Rev. John A. Tiffany was pastor from 1858 to 1866. In 1887 the number of communicants was about twenty. A union prayer meeting was maintained by the Methodists, Presbyterians and Baptists.

The Toronto Presbyterian church, at Bono, was organized many years ago, but later the membership largely went to other points, as the country



settled up, many going to the church at Dana. There a neat church was built of frame, thirty-six by forty feet, besides a "rostrum" eight by fourteen feet. Its cost was about two thousand eight hundred dollars, not counting pews and other fixtures. It was dedicated June 26, 1887, by Rev. T. D. Fyffe, of Roseville, Indiana. The leading men in building were W. M. Taylor, Samuel Aikman and Samuel Hall. This building is still in use.

At Newport the Presbyterians were early in the field, but allowed the first society to run down. It was reorganized in the spring of 1875, by Rev. Mitchell, of Clinton, with only seven members. The ruling elders were M. G. Rhoades and I. B. Fusselman, later of Danville. About 1847 a frame church was erected, forty by fifty feet, on Market street, east of the public square. This was erected soon after the organization was effected. Later it was occupied by the United Brethren. The society was never very strong at Newport, other churches having held the field.

The Eugene Presbyterian church was first organized in 1826, when the first meetings were held in the house of William Thompson, a log cabin a little west of the depot on the Big Vermillion river. At first its name was the "River and County Vermillion Church," and comprised, April 26, 1826, Asa Palmer, William Thompson, William Wilson, Ann Wilson, William Armour, Ruhama Armour, Eliza Rodman, Hannah Laughlin, Margaret Caldwell, Mary West, Mary Thompson, Lucy Thompson, and Susan Wilson. The first minister was Rev. James Hummer, who was succeeded by Revs. Baldrige, Kingsbruy, Cozad, Conklin, C. K. Thompson, Venable Crosby, Henry M. Bacon and W. Y. Allen, of Rockville. In 1887 this church had a membership of fifty-two. The second place of meeting was a brick dwelling, and the third place a neat frame church, thirty-six by sixty feet, erected in 1859 in partnership with the Methodist people. Its cost was three thousand dollars; it was erected centrally in the village of Eugene. Later the church interests were removed to Cayuga and in 1902 a fine brick church building was erected, bearing the inscription, "Eugene 1823—Memorial—Cayuga, 1902." It is located in the best part of the western portion of the town.

What was styled Mount Olivet Cumberland Presbyterian church was located three and a half miles southwest of Eugene.

At Perrysville a Presbyterian church was organized at an early day and after struggling along many years finally dissolved, when it only mustered fifteen members. Their house of worship, which they purchased from the Universalist society, became unsafe, and in 1882 was sold for one hundred and fifty dollars and later torn down. There was no regular preaching after 1873, when there was twenty-one members.

## BAPTIST CHURCHES.

Hiddle's Prairie Baptist church.—In 1852 a branch or mission of the Bloomfield Baptist church was organized at Toronto, and in July, 1853, it was reorganized as a separate body in the Toronto Presbyterian church, by Rev. G. W. Riley. Revs. John and G. W. Riley were preachers in 1852, the latter named being the first pastor. Up to August, 1861, the following served as pastors or supplies: Rev. Joseph Shirk, William McMasters and A. J. Riley; thence on down later came Revs. William McMasters, Melvin McKee, William McMasters, Melvin McKee, D. S. French, William McMasters, A. J. Riley, G. T. Willis, J. M. Kendall, 1883; W. T. Cuppy, 1886-87.

The Tennessee Valley Baptist church was organized in September, 1872, in the Staats school house by Rev. William McMasters, who had preached there some time previously, when it was known as the "mission." Rev. William McMasters was pastor of this church until his death, in 1886, being succeeded by Rev. John H. Rusmisl. In 1875 a neat frame church was provided at a cost of one thousand six hundred dollars. It was built in the north-east quarter of section 18, township 15, range 9 west. Present membership is one hundred.

Dana Baptist church was formed in 1880, with twelve members, by Rev. G. T. Willis. Among the early pastors now disclosed by the records were Revs. Willis, Cartwright, William McMasters, Palmer and Franklin. The church building, a fancy brick structure, thirty-six by sixty feet, in the northern part of the village of Dana, was built in 1887 at a cost of two thousand five hundred dollars.

Hopewell Baptist church, a frame building about two miles north of Gessie, was the place of meeting of a society which was organized very early in the county's history by the Rabourns. A difficulty arose over Freemasonry, one side holding to the order, while the other pulled out of Christian fellowship on account of this fraternity. The two factions were called "Stippites" and "Johnsonites," after the two leading spirits of the Masonic and anti-Masonic factions. This split the little church into two parts, and neither flourished after that.

At Clinton the Baptist church is young in years, it having been organized in 1909 with twenty-two members, which has now grown to a membership of ninety-four. A little more than three years ago a few Baptist families, desiring of having a church of their own faith, banded together and invited Rev. J. M. Kendall to preach to them occasionally, and August 18, 1909, with his

assistance, organized the First Baptist church of Clinton, Indiana, with twenty-two members. About eight months after the organization of the church the pastor resigned because of other pressing duties. The following July the state convention sent Mrs. N. B. Leslie to this important field, and under her care the work progressed rapidly, including a flourishing, modern planned Sunday school. On March 1st, this devoted woman was sent to other fields. Then the membership of the church had reached ninety communicants. A lot was purchased upon which to erect a church, the price paid being one thousand eight hundred and fifty dollars; it is at the corner of Fifth and Walnut streets, an ideal location. March 1, 1912, the present pastor, Rev. A. E. Clem, was called, since which he has devoted his entire time to building up the interests of the church and attending to the duties of raising funds with which to erect the new church, which has its foundation in (December, 1912) and when completed will cost about twenty thousand dollars. It is to be of faced brick and stone trimmings, with full-sized basement, fifty-six by eighty feet, wherein will be situated Sunday school rooms, kitchen, gymnasium, etc. In the summer of 1912 great tent meetings were held and as a result there were added to the church, under Pastor Clem and the evangelist, Charles E. Watkins, more than twenty-five more members. In all, the society now has a membership of almost two hundred.

The Baptist churches in Vermillion county at this date are the one at Clinton, the one at a point in Helt township, known as Tennessee Valley church, with a hundred members; one at Dana, which had in 1911 ninety-six members, and property valued at three thousand five hundred dollars.

#### THE UNITED BRETHREN CHURCH.

Perhaps the earliest organization of this denomination in Vermillion county was formed as early as 1837. This was the church at Haneman Chapel, formed at the house of Christopher Haneman. In 1837 a class was formed by a few members of that faith, including Christopher Haneman and wife, Harriet McDowel, George Wellman and wife, Jeremiah Hammond and wife, Silas Hollingsworth and wife, Emily Bales and Isaac Johnson and wife. A brick church was erected in 1842, but not completed until 1872, thirty years later. It stood on section 6, township 15, range 9. Among the pioneer ministers there may be recalled the names of Revs. John Shoey, William Eckles, Andrew Wimset, Conyer, John Miller, Thomas Hamilton, Joseph Nye, Rev. Nugen, John A. Mast and Samuel Potts. In 1887 there were twenty-eight

members and Rev. S. S. Sims was pastor, and services were held once in three weeks.

Midway United Brethren church was organized in 1857 by Rev. Joel Cogwill, with about fifteen members, in the Castle school house, which later was purchased and converted into a church building. It was twenty-two by thirty feet in size, and situated on section 13, township 15, range 10. Public services were discontinued there in 1887.

Bethel United Brethren church, two miles southwest of Newport, was organized many years ago. In 1887 the church enjoyed a membership of forty-eight. A church building was erected about 1862.

Opedee United Brethren church was organized about 1880, and in 1886 Miss Wimsett was a steward. Meetings were held then in a school house. Ira Mater, of Hillsdale, was a minister in this church. Another class met at the Eggleston school house. B. F. Dungan, of Newport, was pastor of all the United Brethren churches in Vermillion township in the eighties.

At Newport the United Brethren church was organized in 1870 by Rev. Samuel Garrigus, then a resident of Bellemore, Parke county. At first there were but fourteen members in this class, but by 1887 it had increased to ninety, chiefly under the ministrations of Rev. Dungan. At the date last mentioned the society worshiped in the Presbyterian church, on Market street.

Another very early church of this sect was the Cross-Roads United Brethren church, two miles west of Perrysville, organized before 1848. A large frame church house was built in early years. In 1888 the membership of this society was seventy-five.

The Perrysville United Brethren church was organized many years ago, and in 1887 was called an old society. At that time the church was a frame building, thirty-eight by forty-eight feet, erected about 1857.

Mound Chapel United Brethren church was erected about 1875; was thirty by forty feet; located three and one-half miles north of Perrysville.

Liberty class was organized in 1878 by Rev. Henry Norlan with sixteen members.

At Gessie the United Brethren people were organized in 1870 by Rev. F. E. Penny, of Danville, Illinois. Among the earlier pastors in charge were Revs. J. A. Smith, J. Knowles, Kaufman, S. C. Zook, J. R. Horner. A church edifice was erected by the Christians about 1877, a frame twenty-four by forty feet, costing one thousand dollars, and in 1870 they sold to the United Brethren.



## METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCHES.

The first Methodist organization in Vermillion county was effected some time previous to 1830, at the house of John Vannest, the first settler in the county. The class then comprised, besides Mr. Vannest and his half-brother, George Rush, James and Amos and Joseph Reeder and the Brannon family. The minister, who walked his rounds every four weeks, was of that good and old-fashioned Methodist type of ministers always loved by his followers. Revs. Smith and McGinnis were among the zealous preachers of that early day. Itinerant Methodist ministers of pioneer times were noted for their energy and daring in threading the wild woods and prairies in search of the isolated settler, for the purpose of preaching to him the gospel and of organizing classes as soon as he could find enough to meet, coming from far and near. The early history of these various Methodist classes has become lost with the shuffle of passing years, and we are obliged to leap forward in imagination over a half century in the history made by these faithful men and women, who first planted the good seeds of Methodism, the fruits of which this generation and those yet unborn are and shall reap from great spiritual gifts.

Coming down to 1887 it is learned that the society at Clinton comprised ninety-four members. The class leader was then L. H. Beckman; stewards, James M. Hayes and Robert Allen. The pastor was Rev. J. B. Combs. The circuit was in the Greencastle district, Northwestern Indiana conference, with Rev. A. A. Gee, of Greencastle, as presiding elder. As to a house of worship it may be stated that the Methodists here passed from the log cabin residence and the school house to a frame church, erected mainly by the Presbyterians in 1831; and next to a frame building, thirty-eight by sixty feet, built about 1852, at a cost of one thousand four hundred dollars. Again in 1883 an imposing brick edifice was erected, forty by eighty feet in ground measurements, at a cost of six thousand five hundred dollars. This building, with some alterations, is still doing service.

Toronto Methodist Episcopal church was organized in February, 1853, by Rev. John Lach, who died in 1867. Among the first members were John Jenks and family, William Jordan and wife, Almeda Jenks, John R. Wishard and wife, Mrs. Tiller Jenks and a few more. In 1875 a great and sweeping revival was held by Rev. Jacob Musser. In 1887 the church had a membership of sixty, with Stephen Jenks as class leader. Services were then held in the Presbyterian church by Rev. William Smith.

At Hillsdale the Methodist Episcopal church was organized July 11, 1880, by Rev. Thomas Bartlett, with the following membership: John W. Casebeer, class leader (still living), S. R. James, Matilda James, Margaret Owens, Dr. E. Mack, Mrs. Mack, Martha Strowbridge, Ella Casebeer, A. B. Casebeer, Sarah Wilson, Mary McLaughlin, Jane Williamson, Wallace Thompson, Mrs. Thompson, Elizabeth Newell, R. Wilson, Thomas J. Williamson, Bertie Casebeer, Billy Ponton, Charles Bassett and Mrs. Mary Marvin.

A fine frame building was erected, thirty-four by forty feet, costing one thousand six hundred and fifty dollars, in 1883-84, principally by the donations of "Sister Bricker." The ground was donated by Mrs. Mary Gibson. The first pastor here was Rev. J. F. McDaniels. Following him came Revs. E. R. Johnson, Joy, J. T. Woods, W. A. Smith. Preaching was had on alternate weeks. The membership in 1887 was twenty-five. The class leader was at that date William Tincher.

One of the oldest societies of this denomination was the old Salem Methodist Episcopal church, one mile north of Summit Grove, where preaching after this faith was had by Rev. Chamberlain in 1821-22. The next preacher was Rev. Dr. William Jantes, a Virginian, who came to this county in October, 1822, when he preached in the log barn of John Helt, and later in a small log cabin school house with split-pole seats. He preached and practiced medicine until 1826, when he started for New Orleans with a boat load of corn, and died en route. The next minister was Rev. Warner, of Parke county, who organized the class in the spring of 1828, in the log school house on Helt's prairie, under the name of the "Helt's Prairie Class." Samuel Ryarson and wife were the principal members. Others were John Helt and wife, Samuel Rush and wife, Mrs. Elizabeth Helt, Mrs. Mary Helt, Edmund James and wife, Collon James and John James and wife. These faithful followers met at the school house and at the house of Samuel Rush until 1846, when they erected a frame house at the center of section 22, township 15, range 9 west. In 1878 this building was sold and a commodious brick structure erected on the old foundation, about thirty-two by sixty feet, at a cost of two thousand eight hundred and thirty-eight dollars. In 1888 there were more than one hundred members in good standing and services were held every other Sabbath. The pastor was then Rev. W. A. Smith and the class leaders James Harrington, James A. Miller, Wright James, Martin Harper and Frank Helt.

Spring Hill class was organized in 1834 in the house of Joel Blakesley, with Samuel Rush and wife, Joel Blakesley and wife, Zachariah D. James and

wife, Jane Ford, Sarah Ponton, Stephen Harrington and wife, William Kearns and wife, Lydia Jackson, Enoch White and wife, Martha Ponton, Betsey Ponton, and Nathaniel Barnes and wife. In 1835 they built a hewed-log house, near the center of section 10, township 15, range 9, which they used for several years. The class was then styled "Goshen." They next moved to the school house a half mile to the north. In 1879 they built, at a cost of one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five dollars, a frame church thirty by forty feet, and in 1888 had a membership of about thirty. At that date the society was known as Spring Hill.

Asbury chapel was organized as early as 1830, named for old Bishop Asbury. One of the first ministers there was Rev. DeLap. Services were held at private houses until a frame church was erected on the southeast quarter of section 36, township 16, range 10 west, in 1850. A most powerful revival was held in 1852, under the pastorate of Rev. Arthur Badley, who subsequently removed to Iowa. Other pastors were Revs. J. W. Parrett, Shaw, Thomas Bartlett, Salisbury, Clark Skinner, McDaniel, Wood, Barnard, Nebeker, Clark Skinner, Morrison and E. R. Johnson. Later the class did not prosper and finally went down.

The Center Methodist Episcopal church was organized about 1837 at the home of James Wishard, where services were had many years. In 1853 a commodious frame structure was erected, costing about one thousand four hundred dollars. In 1887 the society had a membership of ninety-seven.

In Helt township Methodism has flourished from the earliest day. At Dana the society was organized in 1879 by Rev. Daniel Morrison, of the Greencastle district. Among the first pastors will be recalled Revs. Elijah Johnson, J. C. McDaniels, Woods, William Smith. The society in 1887 had a membership of sixty, an increase of twenty over the original number. A house of worship was erected in 1882, at a cost of, including the lots, one thousand eight hundred dollars. The present magnificent pressed brick structure was built in 1906 and is among the finest, if not the very best, within the county.

Lebanon Methodist Episcopal church, east of Quaker Hill, was organized at a very early day. In 1887 it had a membership of thirty-five. A frame building was provided which was thirty by thirty-six feet in size.

Vermillion Chapel Methodist Episcopal church, three and a half miles southwest of Newport, erected its building about 1847, was used until in the latter part of the eighties, when it was sold and a new one built at a cost of one thousand eight hundred dollars.

At Eugene, Methodism had an early planting, it being on the frontier,

and it naturally endured many hardships for long years. The records have long since perished, but the true spirit of Methodism still prevails.

At Cayuga this denomination built their first church in 1887-88.

At Newport, the county seat of justice, the Methodist Episcopal church existed in the very early days of the town's history, the details of which are now hard to bring to tangible light for historic record. In time they built a church building, and when it had outlived its usefulness it was sold and torn away. In 1851 another edifice was erected, and later an addition of eighteen feet was added. In 1887 the society had a membership of one hundred and seventy-five. A fine parsonage was built in 1882.

At Perrysville the history of Methodism is traced through the pioneer period down to the present, it never having died out for lack of interest. In 1887 it was stated that the loss of records made it impossible to give a clear conception of all the transactions of the little band that first planted the good seeds in that neighborhood. At the last date mentioned the church had a membership of one hundred and thirty-three. The class leaders were then B. O. Carpenter and J. F. Compton. Several social and auxiliary societies have branched off from the parent church at Perrysville. In 1843 a brick church was built, valued at three thousand dollars, forty-four by fifty-two feet in size. It was located in the southwest central portion of the town.

In Vermillion county there is only one African Methodist Episcopal church, that located at Clinton, having a membership of twenty-two.

#### METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCHES OF 1912.

The subjoined is a list of all the churches of this denomination in Vermillion county in 1912, as near as can be determined from the minutes of the last conference:

Clinton, J. C. Martin, pastor; salary, \$1,000; membership, 278; church and parsonage valued at \$9,000.

Dana, C. E. Beebe, pastor; salary, \$1,000; membership, 345; three churches, valued, with parsonages, at \$14,400.

Fairview Park, A. E. Kester, pastor; salary, \$800; membership, 380; value of church and parsonage property, \$13,500.

Newport, A. M. Hagenbook, pastor; salary, \$800; membership, 276; value of church property, \$10,500.

Perrysville, H. N. Calton, pastor; salary, \$800; membership, 282; valuation of church and parsonage, \$7,600.



There are some country charges supplied from the above central stations of the society. But the above are the churches listed in the latest conference minutes.

AN OLD-TIME CIRCUIT RIDER.

In these days when, in the Methodist economy, the title of presiding elder has been changed to that of district superintendent, it may be of interest to know something of the character of the old-time circuit riders, and for this purpose here will be inserted a paragraph from the writings of L. O. Bishop, in a series entitled "Fifty Years Ago." He says: "S. P. Colvin was the minister here when Fort Sumter was fired upon and let me say right here that the old-time circuit rider certainly earned his salary. The Clinton circuit then included Clinton, Salem, Centenary, Center and Trinity. There was, as a result, something doing for the minister all the time. They were ministers indeed. Colvin was a broad-minded man, a speaker of high ability, intensely devoted to his country, a fine companion, both in the home circle as well as in public meetings. And as a fisherman and a hunter he had no equals. Many a time I have seen him and some of our family (they were all Methodists or Presbyterians) go out on a hunting trip and bring back a ten-foot pole full of game, so loaded that it required the two men to carry it on their shoulders. And such times as everybody would have. The cooks got busy and built a game pot pie, a wonderful creation of the culinary art. And the minister and the class leader, and the neighbors far and near would be invited to come in and enjoy the feast. And they sat down, some in calico and some in gingham, few possibly had something finer, but the quality of the clothes made no difference in their happiness. And the jokes flew thick and fast and hearty, robust laughter shook their sides, and then they would lean back from the table and roar with laughter over some bright shaft of wit or a skyrocket of humor that someone had let loose. And then they sat up to the table and went at it again. I lost my religion at these spreads by always having to wait until second or third table and then pick the bones, if the preacher and his crowd had left any to pick. But these feasts were very much like the miracle of fishes and loaves. If there appeared to be any scarcity of game pie, or fried chicken, roasting ears, dressing, mashed potatoes, pie, cake and float, etc., etc., and more etc., somehow there was always enough and some to spare and everybody was satisfied."

## THE CHURCH IN WAR DAYS.

The old frame Methodist Episcopal church of 1861 on South Main street was torn down in about 1883 and the site was then occupied by a residence belonging to Mrs. Clara Salyards. Mr. Bishop continues: "On this particular Sunday that I am speaking of there fell upon the people of Clinton such a deep, intense feeling of an impending crisis that when Mr. Colvin spoke at times the faintest sigh could be heard over the room, so profound was the silence. Many a boy sat there that Sunday who was shortly to be enrolled in the greatest army the world has ever seen, and to take part in mighty movements on the chess board of the nation.

"Pretty soon we began to miss the boys from their accustomed places. For it will be remembered that those days there were about seventy-five per cent. of the people church members and ninety per cent. attended church—not so now-a-days! There were vacancies behind counters and school desks, on farms, in shops, at carpenter benches, and everywhere. It seemed as if every home in Clinton had given up one or more of its adult members. Bravely they marched to the front, behind the Stars and Stripes, a martial band playing in stout-hearted tones, "Jay Bird," or "The Girl I Left Behind Me." When they had all gone to the front there fell upon the homes of Clinton such a pall of silent anguish, such intense anxiety, that the wonder was that the mothers, fathers, sisters and sweethearts at home did not go mad from the very terror of the situation.

"Indeed, there is but one description in all the literature that I have read that aptly and tersely describes the conditions at home during those four long years. That sentence was the prophecy uttered nearly two thousand years ago by the Nazarene, who, looking ahead and, seeing with god-like clearness of vision all effects following from their causes, exclaimed: 'And there shall come such times as never was'."

## SOCIETY OF FRIENDS.

Hopewell Friends church was organized at an early day in Vermillion township, this county, and was of the same "monthly meeting" as the one at Pilot Grove, Illinois. In 1887 it had a membership of two hundred and thirty. Ministers James P. Haworth, William F. Henderson and Ruth R. Ellis all served acceptably and well. The overseers at Hopewell (Quaker Hill) were Jonathan E. and Kate E. Ellis and Albert and Jane Henderson. Dinah T.

Henderson was recorder. The church or "meeting house" was built in 1873 at a cost of one thousand two hundred and fifty dollars.

The Friends are not numerous enough here now to maintain many regular meetings. Many of these people have long since removed to other sections of the country. No better people, however, ever graced any community than these sincere and conscientious men and women styled "Quakers," but who prefer their right name, Friends.

The Friends, however, in Eugene and Helt townships still have a good, thrifty settlement and maintain meetings at what is known as Hopewell, near Quaker; at Henderson chapel and Lindsley, Eugene township.

#### UNIVERSALISTS.

A Universalist church was organized at Perrysville in 1842, and afterward erected a house of worship, a frame structure, thirty-six by fifty feet in size, but being unable to pay for it, they finally, in 1850, sold it to the Presbyterians and subsequently disbanded. They numbered as high as fifty-five members at one time. Among the ministers who served them were Revs. E. Manford, the celebrated editor, a resident of Terre Haute; B. F. Foster, of Indianapolis; George McClure, of Dayton, Ohio, and a Mr. Babcock. The organizing minister was Rev. Marble, of Fountain county, who preached once a month for one year. The leading members were Robert J. Gessie ("trustee and mortgage"), Dr. Thornton S. Davidson, Dr. Porter, Messrs. Lawless and Watt. They conducted a flourishing Sunday school. The writer knows of no other societies of this denomination within this county. In fact the belief is not as popular in any part of the country as it was many decades ago. The Unitarians having taken many of the members over into their fold. Every community, however, now has Universalists in belief, but not in sufficient numbers to organize and carry forward a church work, as do other sects.

#### ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCHES.

In the early missionary days of Clinton some thirty years ago, there were very few Catholic families in Parke or Vermillion counties, and Rev. T. O'Donaghue, brother of the present bishop of Louisville, was entrusted with the spiritual guidance of a parish which was then almost a wilderness. In later years conditions began to improve, but not enough to warrant the establishment of a parish. Clinton accordingly remained a mission of Monte-

zuma till 1889, when Rev. Joseph T. Baur was commissioned by Rt. Rev. Francis Silas, bishop of Indianapolis, to organize a parish.

Coming to Clinton in November of the same year Father Baur first offered up the holy sacrifice of the mass in the home of Peter Lamb at 315 North Main street. There the faithful continued to assemble for divine worship till the year 1892, when the old Hoffman residence, now No. 303 Water street, was purchased and converted into a church. It did not long meet the requirements of the growing congregation, however, and the present property at Sixth and Nebeker streets was secured and St. Patrick's church erected in the spring of 1894.

The wonderful resources of the Clinton coal fields and the progressive spirit of its business men began about this period to attract considerable attention throughout the states. As a consequence, during the pastorate of Rev. Walter J. Cronin, 1900-1906, very many people came seeking employment in the mines. Those who were successful decided to make their future home in the village on the Wabash. Among them were foreign representatives of nineteen different nations of the world.

So vast had the congregation become in 1906 that Rev. William A. Maher, who succeeded Father Cronin in June of the same year, was immediately impressed with the necessity of a larger church and a school for the dissemination of Catholic learning. Through his ability to speak seven of the foreign languages he looked forward to a spirit of greater religious unity, and so began, in 1908, the erection of our present beautiful church, modeled after the cathedral of Thurles in Ireland. It is a picture of beauty, in stone and brown pressed brick, designed by Gault & Gault, of Terre Haute, and was dedicated to God's holy service June 13, 1909.

The cost of the church was about seventeen thousand dollars. The Sisters' school, now under charge of Sisters of St. Frances, from Oldenberg, Indiana, has an attendance of about three hundred pupils, while the congregation of the church numbers four thousand souls. The total value of this church property is estimated at thirty thousand dollars.

Father James L. Bolin assumed charge of the parish in December, 1910, and in the following year began the erection of the present school building, now in charge of the Sisters, six in all. Father Bolin was succeeded by the present pastor, Father William F. Keefe.



## THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH.

This denomination, sometimes known as the Church of Christ, and many years ago as Disciples or Campbellites, at one time had a strong following in Vermillion county, but it is not so large today. There are, however, some societies of this sect, including those at Cayuga, Dana, St. Bernice, State Line society, and Clinton, but none but the Dana church has a regular pastor at this time, December, 1912. There are houses of worship in each of the towns named. At Dana there are thirty-five members; the pastor is Rev. J. W. Parks, who came in 1912, and cares for the State Line church.

In Clinton there are also a few families of this denomination, but who are known as the "Antis," as they are radically opposed to the use of church organs and many of the modern societies that are known in other religious societies as auxiliaries, such as Sunday schools, Epworth Leagues and Christian Endeavors. They simply take the plain teachings of the New Testament, without credit or form of any sort, and they, too, style themselves "Christian," while many of the other of like general doctrinal belief call themselves the "Church of Christ," or "Christ Church."

The Clinton Christian church (first church) was organized in 1889 in Crabb's Hall by the Rev. W. W. Jacobs, of Kansas, Illinois, and during his stay with them the society prospered well, but after his departure from their leadership they declined until 1894, when Rev. H. M. Brooks, of Paris, Illinois, appeared on the scene and reorganized the church. It was in February of that year that their church house was dedicated. It is a good brick structure located on the corner of Seventh and Blackman streets. Among the ministers who have served here all have done well their part toward building up the church, which now has a membership of about two hundred and fifty, who are daily trying to magnify the Christ, their Lord.

## UNITED BRETHREN UNION CHURCHES.

The United Brethren Union church, at Cayuga, was organized March 18, 1906, by Rev. C. Long, with D. L. Sollers, deacon; O. S. Harvey, steward; Harry Kiger, clerk. In 1909 a neat frame church was erected at a cost of one thousand dollars. The membership of this church is now eighty-five. Rev. John Wells, of Clinton, is the present pastor in charge. The new church building is provided with a good bell and church organ.

This denomination is also represented in this county at Cromersville and Clinton.

## CHAPTER IX.

### FRATERNAL SOCIETIES IN VERMILLION COUNTY.

#### FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS.

Vermillion county has the following Masonic lodges, all prospering, in the autumn of 1912: At Clinton, Jerusalem Lodge No. 99; at Newport, Newport Lodge No. 209; at Perrysville, Unity Lodge No. 344; at Cayuga, Cayuga Lodge No. 584; at Dana, Asbury Lodge No. 320.

At Clinton, Freemasonry was first instituted prior to 1843, but interest in its workings declined and the charter was finally surrendered. Jerusalem Lodge No. 99 was chartered May 29, 1850, and has ever since been kept alive. The charter members of this, the first lodge in the county, were: Sylvester Redfield, worshipful master, who later removed to Nebraska; John N. Perkins, Hiram Barnes, John R. Whitcomb, Benjamin R. Whitcomb, William S. Price, James Gatzoway, James McCulloch, Nathan Sidwell, J. J. Moore and William Barrick. The membership of this lodge in 1912 was one hundred and twenty-two, and its elective officers were then: J. N. Frist, worshipful master; Mahalon Stark, senior warden; George Boatman, junior warden; Ivan W. Scott, secretary; Arthur B. Roberts, treasurer; Henry Adamson, senior deacon.

The Masonic hall of Clinton was erected in 1902 and is valued at about ten thousand dollars.

At Dana, Asbury Lodge No. 320 was chartered May 24, 1865, by the following charter members: Morris Hager, John Aye, Thomas S. Hood, James Osborn, Selah Temple, Thomas A. Edmundston, John Bilsland, Henry Jordan, William F. Bales, William F. Ford. The lodge was first organized at Bono, now called Toronto. Its present membership is seventy-eight. The lodge was built as the second floor of a building in Dana, the rooms being especially prepared for lodge room uses, and the property is valued at one thousand two hundred dollars. The officers in the fall of 1912 were as follows: James R. Douglas, worshipful master; Davis S. Williams, senior warden; S. E. Scott, junior warden; H. L. Fillingier, treasurer; C. B. Jackson, secretary; F. B. Lowrey, senior deacon; Jacob S. Randall, junior deacon; E. B. Thompson, tyler.

Newport Lodge No. 209 was instituted May 26, 1857, and its first officers were: Thomas C. W. Sales, worshipful master; Abel Sexton, senior warden; Henry F. Jackson, junior warden. The lodge now has a membership of forty, and its last officers are: Charles N. Fultz, worshipful master; John A. Hughes, senior warden; M. B. Carter, junior warden; H. V. Nixon, senior deacon; Joseph McCormick, junior deacon; Jesse Fultz, secretary; V. R. Nixon, treasurer. The lodge built its present hall about 1900 at a cost of one thousand two hundred dollars and later bought the second story of the building adjoining, so that it now owns the whole second floor of the two-story brick building situated just west of the court house on the west side of the square, being about forty-four by fifty feet and divided into a large room, and two rooms on the south which are used for a dining room and kitchen.

There is also Eastern Star Chapter No. 236 in connection. The present worthy matron is Fannie Carter; worthy patron, Charles N. Fultz; associate matron, Edna Hollingsworth; conductress, Goldie Fultz; associate conductress, Nellie Wait.

At Eugene, this county, a Masonic lodge was instituted in 1847, with about forty-seven members. Among the first officers were: C. M. Comages, worshipful master; Harvey Skelton, senior warden; Dr. R. M. Waterman, junior warden; George Sears, secretary; Anthony Fable, treasurer. After about ten years this lodge went down on account of removals to side towns and newly organized lodges, such as were formed at Newport, Lodi and Perrysville. Harvey Skelton was the last master of the Eugene lodge as above instituted.

With the springing into existence of Cayuga, the lodge was moved from Eugene there and now is in a prosperous condition, but no facts were furnished the compiler.

At Perrysville, Unity Lodge No. 114 was organized about 1850, at least that early, and increased to thirty-four members. The lodge flourished until May, 1859, when its charter was surrendered. Nothing further was accomplished in Masonic circles until May 29, 1867, after the close of the Civil war period, when Unity Lodge No. 344 was instituted with the following charter officers: W. B. Moffatt, worshipful master; James Hemphill, senior warden; Jacob S. Stephens, junior warden; William Jarrauld, secretary; Robert E. Townsley, treasurer; H. M. Townsley, senior deacon; John Wolf, junior deacon; Thomas Scott, tyler. The present officers are Alexander Grubbs, worshipful master; Roy G. Jester, senior warden; Arthur Blunt, junior warden; Robert O. Jones, treasurer; J. F. Compton, secretary. They own their own lodge room.

Of Chapter No. 125, Royal Arch Masons, at Clinton, it may be stated that its charter was revoked by the grand chapter in November, 1912, and now **there are no chapters of Royal Arch Masons within Vermillion county.**

The only commandery of Knights Templar in this county is at Clinton.

#### INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS.

The earliest lodge of Odd Fellows organized in Vermillion county was Charity Lodge No. 32, chartered at Perrysville April 20, 1846. The first officers were: Irad Abdill, noble grand; Charles Boyles, vice grand; T. S. Davidson, secretary; Thomas Cushman, treasurer; John Dunlap, warden; C. N. Gray, conductor; John A. Minchell, recording secretary. In 1887 this lodge had a membership of nineteen; they owned their own building and had property valued at one thousand three hundred and forty-eight dollars. During Civil war days this lodge was kept alive by six faithful members. Present membership is forty-seven.

Highland Encampment No. 163 was instituted December 7, 1885.

Rebekah Lodge No. 218 was instituted July 24, 1882.

Amant Lodge No. 356 was instituted November 16, 1870, with about a dozen members, which had increased to seventy-five by 1887. The present membership is one hundred and seventy-three.

Unity Lodge No. 827, a newer lodge, has a membership of one hundred and five.

Clinton Encampment No. 143 was chartered May 16, 1876.

Vermillion Lodge No. 182, Rebekah degree, was organized July 9, 1877.

Setting Sun Lodge No. 583 was organized April 27, 1881, at Cayuga, with seventeen members, and the following officers: William H. Hood, noble grand; E. B. Johnson, vice grand; H. O. Peters, treasurer; D. W. Bell, secretary. The present membership is sixty-two.

Dana Lodge No. 581 was organized February 10, 1881, with eighteen members, and Hiram Shepard, noble grand; Julius C. Groves, vice grand; and Fred Rush, secretary. The membership of this lodge in 1912 was reported as one hundred and fifty-four.

Vermillion Lodge No. 594, at Newport, was instituted in the room over the furniture store of David Hopkins by Past Grand Hiram Shepard, under a charter granted May 18, 1882, on the petition of Robert E. Stephens, Lewis Shepard, Thomas Cushman, F. V. Wade, Julius Groves and J. M. Taylor. The first officers were: Lewis Shepard, noble grand; Robert E. Stephens,



vice grand; Thomas Cushman, secretary; J. M. Taylor, treasurer. The lodge now has a membership of seventy-eight.

Hope Lodge No. 268, Daughters of Rebekah, was chartered November 18, 1886.

Vermillion Lodge No. 594, at Newport, was instituted July 6, 1882. Its first officers were: Robert E. Stephens, noble grand; Thomas Cushman, secretary; James Chipps, treasurer.

The 1912 officers are: George Morehead, noble grand; Guy F. Newlin, vice grand; Iles Morehead, recording secretary; Edmund B. Brown, financial secretary; James Chipps, treasurer; Bird H. Davis, Ithimer M. Casebeer and Fred D. Wimsett, trustees. The present membership of this lodge is sixty-eight. Their hall was built in 1892, at a cost of one thousand six hundred dollars; paraphernalia and furniture, four hundred dollars.

This lodge is always represented at the grand lodge, and B. H. Davis of the *Hoosier State*, published at Newport, was appointed proof-reader of the grand lodge in 1912, and had served on the Daughters of Rebekah committee at a former session.

#### PRESENT LODGES OF VERMILLION COUNTY.

The following shows an account of the Odd Fellows lodges in Vermillion county according to the 1912 grand lodge reports; also the membership of each subordinate, as well as Rebekah degree, lodge:

Charity Lodge No. 32 has forty-seven members.

Amant Lodge No. 356 has one hundred and seventy-three members.

Dana Lodge No. 581 has a membership of one hundred and fifty-four.

Setting Sun Lodge No. 583 has sixty-two members.

Vermillion Lodge No. 594 has seventy-eight members.

St. Bernice Lodge No. 666 has one one hundred and thirty-eight members.

B. F. Foster Lodge No. 730 has a membership of seventy-eight.

Unity Lodge No. 827 has a membership of one hundred and five.

This gives a grand total of eight hundred and thirty-five Odd Fellows in Vermillion county.

#### REBEKAH DEGREE LODGES.

Clinton, Vermillion Lodge No. 182 has one hundred and fifty-nine members.

Perryville Lodge No. 218 has a membership of twenty-six.

Newport, Hope Lodge No. 268 has thirty-two members.

St. Bernice, Columbia Lodge No. 425 has ninety-four members.

Hillsdale Lodge No. 573 has ninety-nine members.

Cayuga, Venus Lodge No. 515 has nine members.

Dana, Ruth Lodge No. 634 has sixty-five members.

This gives a grand total of membership in the Rebekah degree of four hundred and eighty-four.

#### KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS.

Vermillion Lodge No. 113, of the order of Knights of Pythias, was organized December 31, 1884, with sixteen charter members and the first officers were: Dr. James T. Henderson, chancellor commander; F. S. Smith, vice commander; L. A. Morgan, master of finance; M. J. Rudy, master of exchequer; D. H. Cade, keeper of records and seal; W. A. Collins, prelate; G. R. Hicks, master at arms; A. R. Marlat, inner guard; E. A. Lacy, outer guard.

At Dana the Knights of Pythias have a hall in conjunction with the Odd Fellows order. **The lodge number is 247.**

At Clinton no data was furnished, but it is known that this order has Hazel Lodge No. 217, with C. C. Foley as keeper of records and seal, and Victor Lodge No. 553.

There are now Knights of Pythias lodges at Clinton, Cayuga, Dana and Newport, all in a flourishing condition. At Clinton there is a Uniform Rank degree of this order; also the Pythian Sisters.

Riverside Lodge No. 242, at Newport, was instituted June 4, 1890. The first officers were: Rev. F. W. Gee, past commander; R. E. Stephens, chancellor commander; R. B. Sears, vice commander; B. S. Aikman, master of exchequer; J. D. Collett, master of finance; R. B. Van Allen, prelate; W. J. Place, outer guard; J. L. Nelson, inner guard; T. J. Nichols, master at arms; E. E. Henson, keeper of records and seal.

The lodge now has a membership of one hundred and eighteen. Its elective officers are: George W. Short, chancellor commander; H. B. Aikman, vice chancellor; W. M. Place, master of exchequer; W. S. Brown, master of finance; J. B. Butler, prelate; Charles V. Hughes, outer guard; A. Julian, inner guard; Iles Morehead, keeper of records and seal.

This lodge owns its own hall and its cost was about one thousand two hundred dollars, erected in 1892.

## CHAPTER X.

### VERMILLION COUNTY ATTORNEYS.

While it is impossible to record the names of every man connected with the bar of Vermillion county, the following list will serve a good purpose in calling to mind many, both dead and living, who have practiced in the county.

In Clinton township the list includes James R. Baker, who, although he did not practice law long, should not be omitted. He left the profession to become a Methodist Episcopal minister.

Lyman J. Smith practiced here four years and removed to Paris, Illinois.

"Judge" John Porter, who lived in the country in this township, followed the law to some extent, was a man of good literary attainments, a member of the Legislature, etc. He died some time prior to the Civil war period.

For about one year prior to the war a man named Ragan practiced law at Clinton.

Henry D. Washburn, a native of Vermont, a member of the noted Washburn family of the old Green Mountain state, was born in March, 1832, coming to this county about 1850; taught school three or four years, chiefly in Helt township, and some at Newport; studied law, while teaching, with Thomas C. W. Sale at Newport; admitted to the bar in 1853, and opened an office at Newport; was in partnership with M. P. Lowry for a time; elected auditor of Vermillion county in 1854, serving one term; entered the army as captain of Company C, Eighteenth Indiana Infantry, promoted to lieutenant-colonel, then colonel, and breveted brigadier-general and then major-general, serving in all about four years, first in Missouri, next in the Army of the Potomac, then in Georgia; but in 1864, before the termination of the Civil war, was elected, while a resident of Clinton, to the lower house of Congress, against Daniel W. Voorhees, serving from March, 1865, to March, 1869. In the last year he was appointed by President Grant to the office of surveyor-general for the territory of Montana and while holding the office died in January, 1871, at Clinton, leaving a wife and two children. Commanding a company of fifty men, he made the first explorations of the now famous Yellowstone Park, in 1870, in which journey the exposure brought on illness that proved fatal to him. He was a Methodist, a Republican and a member of the Knights Templar degree of Masonry.

Henry A. White, a native of Helt township, this county, practiced law at Clinton a number of years, then moved to Kansas.

M. B. Davis, another Vermillion county product, and a graduate of old Asbury University, Greencastle, was admitted to the bar while a very young man, and was in partnership for a short time with H. H. Conley, of Newport. In 1885 he left for Beatrice, Nebraska, and there practiced law and was connected with the *Beatrice Republican*, a local newspaper.

In 1888 the lawyers at Clinton were Daniel C. Johnson, Platt Z. Anderson, Benjamin R. Whitcomb, I. H. Strain and Melvin B. Davis.

At Newport, the seat of justice, the members of the legal profession have included these: Daniel M. Jones, a native of Vermillion county, attended Wabash College, not quite completing his course; he was admitted to the bar in 1852 to 1853; was a member of the Legislature in 1861, as a Republican; was an active partisan, a natural orator, and a shrewd lawyer, and died in the autumn of 1865, leaving a widow and three children. His wife was a sister of Stephen S. Collett. The son studied for a physician.

L. C. Allen, born near Highland, this county, studied law under M. G. Rhoades, of Newport, and was there admitted to the bar. He was justice of the peace in 1868-72, when he also had some trial cases on hand. He was a man of firm principles and sometimes a little severe and rough. Later, he removed to Fountain county and served as a deputy clerk at Covington.

Nathan Harvey was a native and lived many years in Parke county, this state, being educated at Bloomingdale school, the Quaker institution, under the instruction of Barnabas Hobbs, formerly state superintendent of public instruction. He had a fair mind and good scholarship. On coming to Newport he taught school in the seminary building during the days of the Civil war, for a couple of years, then married the daughter of John C. Johnson. He became a law partner of William Eggleston, but was only permitted to practice about three years, when he died, during a session of court. He was an honorable man and had he not died so early would doubtless have been one of the county's best legal minds.

Robert A. Parrett, a native of Indiana, settled with his parents at Newport when a young man. His father was a traveling Methodist minister and the son Robert was reared largely in Newport. He commenced a course at Asbury (now De Pauw University) and while yet in the freshman year, on account of ill health, he had to desist. He then read law in the office of Judge Jump, was admitted to bar and practiced his profession for a time. In the autumn of 1875 he was admitted as a partner of B. E. and M. G. Rhoades, in



which relation he remained until January, 1880. He then engaged in farming near Newport. He was a good lawyer, a good bookkeeper and attentive to business, but, owing to ill health, was induced to abandon the profession for that more healthful and independent occupation of a farmer.

Prof. B. F. Rhoades, a native of Pennsylvania, born in 1834, came with his parents' family to Richmond, Indiana, in 1836, in a one-horse wagon. In 1837 they came to Parke county; then moved to Waveland, Montgomery county, where he attended the Waveland Academy, and entered Wabash College in the junior year, graduating there in 1859. He then came to Clinton, Vermillion county, and taught in the Farmer's College a part of one year. He studied law in the office of Judge Maxwell, at Rockville, Parke county, was admitted to the bar, came to Newport in 1861, and commenced the practice of law. He was in partnership with his brother, M. G. Rhoades, 1865-79. In 1865-66 he was a member of the Legislature. In 1878 he removed to Terre Haute. He went to Europe with his family and there spent thirteen months in travel. Early in the spring of 1881 he was appointed judge of the superior court of Vigo county, serving one year. For five years he was one of the trustees of the State University at Bloomington, where he was also a professor of law for a time.

John D. Cushman was born and reared in Perrysville, this county. His father was Thomas Cushman, who was elected county auditor in the fall of 1872, and moved with his family to Newport, where the son John studied law, was admitted to the bar, and began practice with Joshua Jump for a time; was in the office of Messrs. Rhoades, where he proved himself a good office man, a fine penman and an intelligent business factor of the county seat town. He was a good public speaker, but never practiced at the bar to any considerable extent. In the autumn of 1875 he went to the Southern states, where he traveled for six months. Returning, he resumed law practice, sometimes alone, at other times with others, until his death, about 1882. He was a young man of more than ordinary promise when death claimed him.

Thomas C. W. Sale was for many years a lawyer of Newport, and before the Civil war went to Paris, Illinois, where he received an appointment as Indian agent, and he was in the far West for a long period in the fulfillment of the duties of that office. Later he returned and resided at Paris, Illinois.

Samuel G. Malone, who practiced before the Vermillion county bar prior to the Civil war, removed to Decatur, Illinois, where he accumulated from seventy-five to one hundred thousand dollars, but lost it all later. He then retired to his farm in Helt township, this county.

William Eggleston, a native of Vermillion county, Indiana, was educated here, attended the common schools and the county seminary at Newport, after he was grown to man's estate. He was industrious and persevering. He took kindly to law, and in due time was admitted to the bar, about 1850. He worked up considerable practice, by hard struggle, making many errors, but after fifteen years' practice accumulated a handsome property. He then engaged in the mercantile business with his brother, but they both failed in business. During his experience as a merchant, however, William proceeded with the law profession and was again a successful attorney. While here he wrote and published three works: "A Treatise on County Commissioners," "A Legal Work on Damages," and a play entitled "The Broken-hearted Wife," being a story of woman's love and man's unfaithfulness, and consisting of facts that occurred a few years before, in this section of the state, under his own observation. He removed to Terre Haute in 1877.

V. E. Witmer, about eighty-five years ago, came from Ohio to Newport, this county, where he practiced law about six years, then moved to a point near Logansport, where he died in the eighties. He was a man possessed of the "spread-eagle" style, not deeply versed, but executive, working up law suits whether they should have been worked up or not.

William L. Little, a graduate of old Asbury University (now DePauw), became a Methodist minister, preaching here a year or more. He then switched to farming seven miles southwest of Newport, and in that he succeeded well; next he practiced law at Newport, settled a few estates, and then became a merchant, finally moving to Hutchinson, Kansas, about 1882. He had a fair intellect, a good degree of information on general subjects, and was a prominent citizen of Vermillion county. From 1862-72 he acted as county examiner, and for about eight years served as county school superintendent.

James Blanchard, another native of this county, received a good classical education and was an expert penman, on which account he was employed much in the stores and county offices as an accountant and copyist. Picking up a little law knowledge, he was admitted to the bar and had several law partners. He was a good assistant in preparing legal papers, conducting correspondence, making collections, etc. About 1884 he moved to Terre Haute, and from there went to South Hutchinson, Kansas, where he is engaged in the real estate business and was generally successful.

Ben Blanchard, though nominally an attorney, never actually conducted a suit. He moved to Terre Haute and engaged in real estate business.

Hon. Joseph B. Cheadle, congressman from the ninth district in Indiana, was born in Vermillion county, Indiana, read law with Judge Maxwell, of Rockville, admitted to the bar here about 1868, became deputy collector of internal revenue, was a candidate for nomination for a number of offices, gradually drifting out of law into editorial work, had charge of the *Hoosier State*, at Newport, nine months, in 1870, then the *Rockville Republican* and *Rockville Tribune*, later becoming editor of the *Frankfort Banner*, Clinton county.

Joshua Jump, born in Ohio in 1843, studied law with R. N. Bishop, at Paris, Illinois, was admitted to the bar, and came to Newport in 1869, where his partnerships were in succession with William Eggleston, Robert H. Sears, James Blanchard, John D. Cushman, and from March, 1879, to March, 1885, C. W. Ward. From 1885 to 1886 he was circuit judge. In June, 1887, he removed to Terre Haute. Politically, he was a Democrat, and was an important figure in his party in state and county political work.

Adam Littlepage, from West Virginia, was admitted to the bar in Newport, February 6, 1883, formed a partnership with John A. Wiltermood, which existed about three years. He married the daughter of S. S. Collett, and then returned to West Virginia.

John A. Wiltermood, who was in 1888, postmaster at Newport, was appointed to the position in September, 1885. He was born in Vermillion township this county, a son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph W. Wiltermood, and was reared on his parents' farm, most of his early youth being spent in Eugene township. He attended the State Normal at Indianapolis in 1878-79, taught school three years, studied law in the office of Judge Jump, admitted to practice February 6, 1883, associated professionally with H. H. Conley two years, and with Adam Littlepage about three years.

The Newport bar, in 1888, consisted of these gentlemen: M. G. Rhoads, B. S. Aikman, C. W. Ward, O. B. Gibson, H. H. Conley and J. C. Sawyer.

In the winter of 1874-75 Messrs. Jump and M. G. Rhoads were attorneys for a fugitive from Illinois, charged with stealing horses, and succeeded in releasing him from the custody of the officers. This raised much excitement among the citizens of Newport, and indignation meetings were held, as well as in other sections of Vermillion county. The officer holding the fugitive had not the proper authority in the case.

## VERMILLION COUNTY BAR OF 1912.

Henry Adamson, Clinton; Joseph W. Amis, Clinton; Daniel C. Johnson, Clinton; Hezzie B. Pike, Clinton; John A. Wiltermood, Clinton; E. P. Zell, Clinton; G. Edmond Bingham, Clinton; R. E. Guinn, Clinton; Frank R. Miller, Clinton; Frank Smith, Dana; George D. Sunkel, Dana; Ed. B. James, Dana; Miller W. Coffin, Cayuga; Charles Hosford, Cayuga; Oscar D. Zell, Cayuga; Homer B. Aikman, Newport; Hugh A. Conley, Newport; W. Burt Conley, Newport; Charles M. Fultz, Newport; Ed. E. Neel, Newport; Martin G. Rhoades, Newport; William C. Wait, Newport; Homer Galloway, Newport; Forest Ingram, Newport; Harrison T. Payne, Newport; John B. Butler, Newport.



## CHAPTER XI.

### VERMILLION COUNTY PHYSICIANS.

In the settlement of every new country the medical profession is usually among the first to establish itself. The first settler, the family doctor and the traveling minister, is about the order in which the first steps toward development are taken. As much as may be said against the doctor when one is in possession of good health and has no need for the medicine chest and the faithful adviser, the time soon comes to one and all when the sight of the physician is welcome. During the weary hours of the night, passed in the lonely pioneer cabin, the sick person with a fevered brow and hectic flush watched patiently for the coming of the doctor, with his saddle-bags, which contained many distasteful drugs of the old-school compounds, yet were looked upon with great favor in days and nights of sickness and swallowed in the hope that strength and vitality might again bless them. These pioneer doctors made their trips over hill and glade, through all kinds of weather, facing the storms of winter and the burning sun of mid-summer, in order to reach the bedside of the sick in time to be of service to them in the hour of their distress. Many of the bills for such service were never paid, but the faithful doctor never stopped to consider the payment of the bill, going on his professional call to cure, and not solely to add to his own treasury. Scores of these old-time physicians were excellent doctors, understood human nature and knew much more than they have been credited with in these later years. True, the science of medicine had not progressed to the high degree that now obtains, yet the success attained in caring for the ills of fifty and seventy-five years ago compares favorably with that of today, except in contagious and epidemic diseases, in which the more recent physicians are undoubtedly superior to their forefathers.

The first physician to locate in Clinton was Dr. Joseph Hopkins, who came from Ohio in 1830, or possibly a little before that year. He was an acceptable physician, practiced a number of years and died out West, leaving a wife and two daughters. Peace to his ashes!

Dr. Eastman practiced here about the same time above named, but little can now be learned of him.

Dr. I. S. Palmer, a graduate of one of the Philadelphia medical colleges,

settled in Clinton during the pioneer period, accumulated some property, but finally became very intemperate and lost what he had honestly made. He finally lost his own life in a most horrible manner, although not intoxicated at the time. Visiting a patient across the river Wabash, one day about 1863, he noticed on his return many squirrels in the woods. On arriving home he took his gun and started out to indulge in the sport of a chase. While crossing the river on the ice he broke through, but held himself from being drawn under by clinging to the edge of the ice, and there he held fast until parties had arrived from points a mile or more distant for his rescue. But his strength gave out and he went under, never more to be seen. His body was never recovered. Charles Knowles nearly lost his life in trying to save the unfortunate doctor.

Ohio sent another doctor to these parts in the person of Dr. William Kile, a man of great energy and industry. After practicing several years and making a small fortune, he sold out and moved to Paris, Illinois, where he embarked in the mercantile business, and also had a good farm which he cultivated, handling stock in an extensive manner. Subsequently, the Doctor drifted into banking. It is related of him that when visiting patients on the east side of the Wabash that he frequently would swim his horse, on his return, rather than to come a few miles out of his way to the wagon bridge. One time he was violently attacked with small-pox, when scarcely anyone thought he could survive, but his "vitativeness" was so large that, as he was taken out into the country for treatment, passing a store, he called out to the proprietor, "Save me the large pair of boots, will you?" He had very large feet. He died at Paris many years afterward.

Dr. Perkins, a botanic physician, practiced here a number of years and finally moved to Oregon.

Dr. Rollin Whitcomb, another botanic physician from New York, located here in 1841. After practicing here for a number of years, he moved to other parts, but again resumed practice here and remained until his death.

Dr. I. B. Hedges accompanied his parents from New York when he was a mere boy, in 1824. He commenced the practice of medicine in 1845, and proved to be a successful doctor. He was a man of learning and stood high in the community. He left his family considerable property, as a result of his extended medical practice.

Dr. P. R. Owen came to Clinton about 1854 from New Goshen, Indiana, but was a native of Ohio. When the Civil war broke out he enlisted and was elected captain of Company I, Fourteenth Indiana Infantry, promoted major and then lieutenant-colonel of his regiment; came home and practiced his

profession until 1871, when he died, leaving a widow and several children. He was an excellent Methodist minister at one time. The Grand Army post at Clinton was named in honor of him.

Another physician here was Dr. Corkins, who after a few years' practice, removed to Texas.

Dr. William Reeder practiced medicine at Clinton for a number of years before the breaking out of the Civil war, in which he enlisted and held some office in his regiment. About 1874 he moved to Texas, where at last accounts he was a successful practitioner in the Lone Star state.

Dr. J. C. Crozier was another "before the war" physician in Clinton. He entered the Union army as a surgeon, continued until the end of the war, then practiced here a number of years, finally going to Washington, D. C., where he was for many years connected with the pension department.

Dr. William H. Stewart came in from Illinois, practiced three years and located in Terre Haute. In 1888 the physicians in Clinton were Drs. Henry Nebeker, J. H. Bogart and C. M. White.

In Helt township the physicians of long ago included these: Dr. Hiram Shepard, born in Newport, this county, graduated at the Miami Medical College of Cincinnati, Ohio, and practiced at Dana from 1874 on.

Dr. Granville O. Newton was born in Helt township, graduated at the named medical school, and after practicing in this county in the country for a time removed to Dana in September, 1885.

Dr. Thomas C. Hood, also a native of Helt township, graduated at Jefferson Medical College at Philadelphia in 1884, located in Terre Haute for a short time, moving to Dana in 1885.

Dr. John C. Harrison was born in Crawfordsville, Indiana, was a soldier in the Civil war, graduated in medicine at the Eclectic Medical College of Cincinnati, began to practice in partnership with his brother in 1868, locating at Dana in 1886.

Dr. A. H. DePuy practiced in Helt township from 1856 to 1871, moved to Chicago. He was a regular graduate and an excellent man.

Dr. Frank Foncannon, a native of Helt township, practiced in this township a short time, then went to Emporia, Kansas.

From out the numerous physicians who have from time to time practiced medicine in Vermillion township only these can now be recalled of the earlier ones:

Dr. J. R. Willetts practiced here previous to the Civil war, and moved from the county. For a time he was in partnership with Dr. Griffin, long since deceased. Dr. E. T. Collett, son of Josephus Collett, Sr., was a graduate of

the Louisville Medical College, practiced here and in Eugene township, and in 1878 committed suicide in Kansas, at the age of fifty-eight years. Drs. Clark and P. H. Leavitt practiced here for a number of years, part of the time as partners. The former moved to Danville, Illinois, and the other died at Newport. Dr. E. Thompson moved to Illinois and died there. He left Newport in the autumn of 1874. Other doctors of the township were Drs. M. L. Hall, Lewis Shepard and James Wallace.

Among the early physicians at Eugene may be recalled the name of Dr. R. M. Waterman, who came in before 1837, and practiced until his death, about 1868, except a short time at Lodi, whence he entered the army. He was of the "regular" school of practice and came from Rhode Island. He established the first newspaper published in Vermillion county.

Dr. James McMeen practiced here many years; and in 1886 moved to Danville, Illinois. Another physician here was Dr. William C. Eichelberger.

At Perrysville the list of men who have practiced medicine is quite lengthy, and includes the following:

Dr. Dinwiddie, said to have been a surgeon of the regular army, was the first physician to locate at Perrysville. He left the place sometime in the forties.

Dr. Thornton S. Davidson came about 1839 and died here about 1852.

The next physician was probably Dr. Reynolds, about 1850.

Dr. R. M. Waterman, after practicing here a while, moved to Eugene, where he started the *News-Letter*, and then to Lodi, Fountain county, where a postoffice was named for him, "Waterman." He served in the army, as captain of Company A in an Indiana regiment, but contracted a disease from which he soon afterward died.

Dr. A. B. Small, not a regular graduate in medicine, was in partnership with Dr. Waterman and others, became feeble by reason of age and finally died in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Dr. John Stewart Baxter, from Virginia, was a good surgeon, in partnership with Dr. Spotswood for a time, and died in Perrysville in 1853.

Dr. Dexter F. Leland, from some one of the Eastern states, arrived here about 1850, was a partner of Dr. Spotswood, a physician of gentlemanly manners, and died in three or four years after settling here.

Dr. Lewis Clark came in 1854, was an energetic man, practiced here three years and moved to Kansas, where he died.

Dr. Lewis Frazee, eclectic, was born in New Jersey in 1815, came to Perrysville in 1863, and died in December, 1881. His first wife and their



nine children all died before him. The son George began practice in Perrysville in 1870, dying in 1878.

Dr. J. M. Wilkerson arrived in Perrysville in 1852, and practiced a few years only, then removed to other parts.

Other doctors were: L. M. Meering; John Kemp, botanic; D. M. Ballard, from 1857 until his death; Joseph H. Olds, who came before the Civil war, entered the Union army, whence he did not return to this county. He was considered a physician of more than ordinary ability and skill.

Dr. Crooks, a young man in partnership with Dr. Clark for a period, moved to Lebanon, where he died.

Dr. B. I. Pollard, eclectic, from State Line (village), practiced in Perrysville in the early eighties and moved to Dixon, Illinois.

In 1888 the list of physicians at Perrysville included these: Drs. E. T. Spotswood, James T. Henderson, James Webb, J. W. Smith, D. B. Johnson.

#### A BLIND PHYSICIAN.

Dr. Cuthbert F. Keyes, deceased, was born near Dugee Ferry, in Indiana, in the year 1822, and in 1826 was brought by his parents to Vermillion county, where he was reared to manhood. His father was a gunsmith and wagon-maker and while he kept his slaves at work in the gun factory, the white men worked at the wagon yard and he himself ran boats on the Potomac river. After his father's death he lived with his mother and uncle, attending school at Clinton, riding to and fro night and morning. He spent a portion of his younger life clerking in a store for his uncle and passed from this to the study of medicine, with Drs. Kile and Palmer at Clinton. He studied medicine some time and during this time he had to work for his board, doing any little odd jobs he could find, but this only helped to make the man he afterward became. He then went to St. Louis, where he attended one term of lectures. June 30, 1846, he married Miss Jane Bales, they beginning their married life on the farm. Here he began the practice of his profession, which he followed until he went to St. Louis to attend a second term of lectures. In this term his eyes began to fail and he became blind. He still continued the lectures, Professor Van Zant giving him the privilege of this term free and at the close commended him for his close attention and industry, although he was stone blind. His eyes were treated in the city at the same time. At the time of the birth of his son, Dr. O. M. Keyes (now of Dane), he was blind. When he returned to his home from St. Louis he found, by the care and industry of his good wife that his affairs had been kept in good order. He sub-

sequently moved to Clinton, but becoming dissatisfied, he returned to his farm, where he practiced medicine until his death. On the morning of that day he arose, ate a hearty breakfast and started for Bono, about three miles south of Dana, to see a patient. On his way he suffered a sudden and severe attack of congestion of the stomach and bowels. He succeeded in reaching Bono and, leaving his team unhitched, staggered into Frank Austin's store, where he fell on the floor, exclaiming, as he fell, that he had come there to die. He was taken to the house of Mr. Austin, where everything possible was done to alleviate his intense agony. Doctor Hall was sent for, but one hour before he arrived, and at ten o'clock that same evening, the restless spirit of the old veteran took its flight to that bourne whence no traveler returns. No man was more successful in the county than he in his methods of treatment of diseases, and none had a more extensive professional experience. He never refused a call because the patients were poor. He was one of the few who followed his profession not for the purpose of amassing a great fortune, but because he took delight in alleviating the sufferings of his fellow mortals. He was a man of kind disposition and noble and generous impulses, and was ready to make any sacrifices for the accommodation of a friend or neighbor. Though somewhat eccentric in his style, his warm and sympathetic nature and his kind and generous disposition made him a host of friends. Dr. Keyes left a wife and three sons and two daughters, in sad bereavement by his death. Thus, one by one, the old pioneers pass away, leaving the world and the duties incumbent on life to the rising generation.

## PHYSICIANS PRACTICING IN 1912-13.

At the date above given the doctors practicing in this county were as follows:

At Clinton—Drs. G. W. Ashley, F. H. Beeler, E. A. Evans, W. D. Gerish, C. E. Ragan, Annabale Solarglis (Italian), D. C. Shaff, A. A. Washburn, Henry Washburn, I. D. White and Dr. Reese.

At Perrysville—Drs. Sanders and Loomis.

At St. Bernice—Drs. Green, Lonsdale and T. Newton.

At Universal (Bunsen)—One physician was in active practice.

At Newport—Drs. I. M. Casebeer, M. L. Hall and one other.

At Cayuga—Drs. E. A. Flaugher, M. P. and S. C. Darroch, M. R. Pol-lom.

At Dana—Drs. O. M. Keyes, D. S. Strong, W. C. Myers, G. C. Pritchett and Dr. Green.

## COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETIES.

Perhaps, outside of the efforts to keep alive a county agricultural society and hold annual exhibits of farm products, there is no other organization so hard to keep alive and in working order as a county medical society. This should not be so, but such is the almost universal fact, not alone in Indiana, but in every section of the Union. Just when the first attempt at maintaining such a society of the medical men in Vermillion county was made is not now known. It is certain, however, that more than forty years have elapsed since there was such an effort put forth, and it resulted in the organization of what was termed the Vermillion County Medical Society. It was in July, 1869, when a meeting was held at Newport, comprising James McMeen and William C. Eichelbarger, of Eugene; Hiram and Lewis Shepherd, of Quaker Point; Henry C. Eaton, of Brouillet's Creek, and M. L. Hall and C. Leavitt, of Newport, for the purpose of organizing a county medical society. This meeting adjourned to meet again a week or two later, but no further account is found of the affair until in 1873, when they organized, electing Dr. I. B. Hedges, of Clinton, president. Subsequently the membership reached twenty-two, but the association was permitted to run down in the course of about four years.

The files of the *Hoosier State*, published at Newport, mention the fact that in April, 1904, state organizer, Dr. M. A. Boor, of Terre Haute, was in Newport and formed a county society, with officers as follows: President, M. L. Hall, Newport; vice-president, W. P. Darroch, of Cayuga; secretary, O. M. Keyes, of Dana; treasurer, O. A. Newhouse, of Hillsdale. This society, however, went down, as did all the others. One reason assigned is the fact that Clinton has most of the physicians in this county, and they are located at the south end of the county, nearer to Vigo county and Terre Haute, which is easier of railroad access than the northern and western part of this county, hence the doctors run down there and attend the society there, while on the northern strip of Vermillion county the physicians can easily go to Danville, Illinois.

## CHAPTER XII.

### NEWSPAPERS OF VERMILLION COUNTY.

For its size, Vermillion has always had as many, if not more, local newspapers than it could successfully support.

In Clinton the history of journalism may be summed up by the following changes in offices and editors, regardless of the many locations or buildings in which the offices were kept, which is of little account, as all business houses and street numbers are subject to changes, for which the ordinary reader cares little. One press printed all the earlier newspapers in Clinton, save the *Argus* alone. In 1873 the *Clinton Exponent* was established by B. S. Blackledge and James R. Baker. It was decidedly a Republican organ. Its editor was F. L. Wheldon, from Ohio, at first. Baker soon sold his interest to his partner, and Mr. Blackledge conducted the paper until November, 1876, when he sold to Lyman E. Knapp. In June, 1877, he sold to R. S. Knapp, but it is related that King Alcohol foreclosed a mortgage and it "went up the spout." It raised its feeble efforts at existence next at Perrysville, as the *Exponent* of that place. It only survived a short time, and some time in 1877 it was bought by an attorney of Clinton, named H. A. White, who removed the material back to Clinton, and there started the *Western Indianian*, in the building later used as a meat market by Harry Dudley. It was not long before the politics was changed to that of National.

White sold to T. A. Kibby, H. S. Evans and John McMahon. In September, 1879, Mr. Kibby leased the office to L. O. Bishop and others. In June, 1880, this firm purchased the *Clinton Herald*, to which the *Western Indianian* had been changed by Evans, and published it until July 1, 1882, when it was sold.

August 31, 1882, Mr. Bishop established the *Saturday Argus*. The *Herald* suspended after struggling hard for over a year and a half.

It was about this time that Alexander Myers entered the newspaper field, by establishing the *Tomahawk and Scalping Knife*, which he very soon changed to the *Democrat*, which died a natural death after six weeks' publication. In June, 1884, there came out the *Clinton Siftings*, which had trouble to "sift" out a living for about three years, then went the way of all the earth.



Among the pioneers in the newspaper field here, the *Argus* has pulled through to the present date, through storm and sunshine, ever advocating the honest, unbiased convictions of its editor, Lucius O. Bishop, who, through heated political campaigns and local bickerings, has steadily made new patrons and friends and held his old ones. He is a practical printer, and a writer of no uncertain language, hewing to the line, when the case demands it, but ever holding aloof from the low and sensational in the selection of his subject matter. The *Argus* comes forth on Saturday each week in the year, full of bright, sparkling news items, and editorials such as the pen of Mr. Bishop has been able to inscribe for so many years. He, having been raised in a print-shop, knows its every intricate detail. It may be said, as of another paper, "If you see it in the *Saturday Argus* it is true."

The *Clintonian*, daily and weekly, was established in the eighties and was the direct successor of the *Clinton Republican*, a four-page, six-column paper, Republican in its politics. The *Clintonian* is owned and edited by J. W. Pierce and is run on an improved Campbell press, by an electric motor. Subscription rate, one dollar and twenty-five cents per year. It is independent in politics. November 5, 1912, a daily edition was established, a six-column, four to eight-page, rate five dollars per annum. The plant is fully equipped with linotype, folder and jobbers, all run by electricity. The office has been twice enlarged in the last five years. The present publisher consolidated the *Clinton Plaindealer* (run here from 1906 to 1908 by C. G. Vannest and C. H. Vaughn) with the weekly *Clintonian*. The present publications are up-to-date in all features and voice the sentiments of the enterprising, progressive element in the community in which it circulates.

The *Clinton Times* (weekly) was established in the month of May, 1911, by S. E. Mendenhall, who was succeeded in October of the same year by the law firm of Johnson, Brigham & Zell, who still own and conduct the paper, hiring a foreman for the mechanical part of the business. It is a Republican paper, a seven-column folio in size, all home-print. The rate of subscription per year is one dollar. A fine job department is attached to the newspaper business. It is located on East Mulberry street, and the paper is published each Thursday, finding a good circulation in Vermillion, Parke and Vigo counties.

The *Dana News*, one of the county's reliable, readable local newspapers, was established by M. L. Griffith, of Monticello, Illinois, as a Democratic paper, which it is at this time. The date of its establishment was October 1, 1885. April 15, 1887, he sold the paper to J. L. Smith, who sold to Miss Beatrice Taylor in 1894. She sold to G. W. Sturm in 1898, and in 1908 he

sold to the present owner and editor, J. H. Jordan, who conducts a six-column eight-page paper, and has a subscription rate of one dollar and twenty-five cents per year. The machinery in this office is now propelled by gasoline power, and has included within its equipment a good job office. The name of this paper has changed with the whims of every one who has owned the plant. First, the *News*; then the *Vermillion Democrat*, under J. L. Smith; the *Record*, under Miss Taylor; the *Vermillion County News*, under George W. Sturm, and changed back to its original title, the *Dana News*, by its present editor.

The newspaper history of Newport is indeed replete with many excellent and unique features. The first paper established there was the *Olive Branch*, by A. J. Adams, later of Danville, Illinois, fame. Its editor was A. D. Patton. Nearly the first, if not indeed the first, issue of this paper was dated December 29, 1853. Its head (like most papers in those days) had for a motto catchy words, "We hold the balance with an equal hand, and weigh whatever justice doth demand." Politically, the *Olive Branch* was Whig, and upon the organization of the Republican party became its organ in this section of Indiana. The first numbers of this pioneer newspaper had but little original matter, save an occasional editorial. The salutatory occupied a column in length. It advertised with considerable gusto the fact that it had contributors, naming these: Rev. David Taylor, Terre Haute; Robert Ross, principal of the Terre Haute public schools; Samuel Taylor, principal of the Newport Seminary; Dr. H. H. Patten, Princeton, Indiana, and J. S. Sawyer, of Vincennes.

The latest telegraphic news was dated December 17th, twelve days prior to the date of the paper's issue. Most of the advertisements were from Terre Haute business men. One item of real local news was that the Evansville & Terre Haute railroad had just been completed between the two points. W. A. Henderson had the only home advertisement in the paper, which occupied an inch of space in one column, telling the people that he kept drugs and patent medicines, groceries and flour. J. M. Hood gave notice that his telegraph office was situated on the east side of the Square with Mr. Henderson. The subscription price for this paper was one dollar and fifty cents if paid in advance, and two dollars at the end of six months, also another fifty cents was demanded if it was not paid within the year.

## THE HOOSIER STATE.

This old and universally well known publication was the outgrowth of the *Olive Branch*, and had its birth in 1855. It was published at Clinton for a time, but later returned to Newport, where it has ever since remained. The proprietors and editors include Pratt & Adams, James M. Hood, Samuel H. Huston (1855, at Clinton), Mr. Campbell, Mitchell, Vaul (1858), a company with William E. Livengood, George W. English (1862-63), Col. H. D. Washburn, S. B. Davis, Joseph B. Cheadle, S. B. Davis (second time). Many of these men became state and national characters, in one field or another. The halls of Congress claimed Cheadle and the battlefield claimed Washburn, while Davis made a record as an editorial writer of more than ordinary note. Mr. Davis took the paper from Washburn in January, 1868.

In the winter of 1875-76 "Buffalo Bill" wrote a serial for the *Hoosier State*, entitled "Three Years in Utah."

Mr. Davis, so long connected with this paper, was the county treasurer of Vermillion county when the thirty-five thousand dollar robbery occurred, mention of which is given in detail elsewhere in this volume. S. B. Davis was, at the time he quit the paper, the oldest editor in Indiana in point of consecutive service, and he always ran a staunch, uncompromising Republican paper. He was fearless, but always fair. In 1893, on May 1st, he retired from the actual management of the paper, and took in with him his son, changing the style to S. B. Davis & Son. Three years later he again took charge, but had for his associates his sons, Bird H. and F. W. Davis, who assisted in the work of editing and publishing the paper, until the senior Davis' death, April 2, 1908, since which time the son, Bird H., has conducted the paper, which property was left to the wife of S. B. Davis, who is still residing in Newport. The name of the business has never been changed, but still runs as that of S. B. Davis & Son. Bird H. Davis, present manager and editor, commenced the printer's trade at the age of nine years, when he had to stand on a box to elevate him sufficiently high to set type from the cases. He knows all the ins and outs of newspaperdom and stands high among his fellow journalists. The circulation of the popular *Hoosier State* is extensive, going as it does into thirty-two states and foreign countries. It enters two hundred and twenty-five postoffices in this country. It is run on a power press, by gasoline engine. The *Hoosier State* is now a six-column quarto, thirty by forty-four inches in size, and an eight-page paper; its publication day is Wednesday, and its subscription rate is one dollar and twenty-five cents per

year. Politics, Republican. Its special feature is all the printable news. It has long been known as "the old reliable."

The *Newspaper Union* a few years since had this concerning the present editor, Bird H. Davis: "He was born in Newport, Indiana, April 29, 1869. He has a common and high school education. He did his first work at the case when only nine years of age, when he had to stand on a box to reach the case. He would work in the office during the summer months and go to school in the winter time until 1887, when he became foreman of the office, which position he held until May 1, 1893, when he became manager and local editor, and has served in that capacity until the present day (1904). He is married and has three children."

What was styled the *Vermillion Transcript* was started at Newport in about 1872, as an opposition Democratic organ, by Harrison Jump, who ran it fifteen months, sunk one thousand nine hundred dollars and then sold the plant, which was moved away.

#### CAYUGA NEWSPAPERS.

May 14, 1887, the first paper of the place was issued, as the *Cayuga Journal*, James E. Whipple, editor and proprietor. The second paper in the village was the *Herald*, which was established about 1889. It was edited by gentlemen in the following order, as near as can now be determined: E. L. Hiberly, then Charles E. Cook, who sold to A. C. Coniff, the latter conducting the paper until March 4, 1893, when it passed into the hands of Hemphill & Huls; Hemphill remained its editor until June 2, 1894, when the paper was bought by J. Wallace Miller, and was then published by the Miller Brothers till January 1, 1904, when it passed to its present owner and editor, A. Carter Hutchinson. It is now a seven-column folio, all home print; subscription price, one dollar and twenty-five cents, and in politics is Democratic. The printing machinery of the office is now propelled by a gasoline engine.

Through the kindness of the present editor of the *Cayuga Herald* we are in possession of the following facts concerning other newspaper ventures at Cayuga. A copy of the *Cayuga Times*, dated September 5, 1889, is in existence. John Wooldridge was its editor. The *Tribune*, another local paper of the village, made its appearance early in the nineties, and was published by Boone Gibbons. Its career was brief, dying for lack of financial support. Then came the *Blue Pencil* by "Bob" Osborn. It was conducted a short time at Cayuga and then moved to Perrysville, where it existed for about two years longer, when its owner moved the outfit to Clinton, this county.



## PIONEER NEWSPAPERS IN VERMILLION COUNTY.

The *News-Letter*, Vermillion county's first paper, was launched at Eugene in 1837 by Dr. R. M. Waterman and continued there six months. The plant was sold to J. R. Jones, who moved to Perrysville and there published the *Perrysville Banner*. Two years later Clapp & Roney owned the paper and called it the *Vermillion Register*. It was next the *Perrysville Republican*, with Austin Bishop as editor and proprietor. R. B. Dickason published at Perrysville the *Eagle* in the years from 1852 to 1855, selling out to a Mr. Robinson, and he to Benjamin Snodgrass, who finally let the paper go down. This was the earlier and later history of journalism in Perrysville. The attempts to make a success of the *Register* and *Banner* and all the rest proved a failure financially. The Democratic organ, the *Banner*, was printed on a press first brought to Indiana in 1804, to Vincennes, whereon the *Western Sun* was also printed.

From the files of the old *Perrysville Banner* for February, 1839, the following interesting items have been extracted, throwing light as they do on men and customs of that period:

J. R. Jones was editor and proprietor. This is the twenty-fourth number of its issue. It contains five columns to the page and was published at two dollars a year if paid in advance; otherwise, three dollars. The number contained a large amount of congressional and legislative news of this state and but very little original or local matter.

Hiram Barnes, of Perrysville, advertises for a "professional" man to take charge of an ox team. Edmund James, a justice of the peace, of Helt township, publishes an attachment notice, on the affidavit of Silas Rhodes, against the chattels of Simon and Martin Gilbert. The name of Permelia Smith appears as the administratrix of the estate of Daniel Smith. George W. Palmer, justice of the peace, notifies the readers that Ephraim Driscoll, of Highland township, had taken up an estray steer, four years old, which was appraised at twelve dollars by James Welch and Tom Lovers. James Thompson, school commissioner of the county, gives fair warning that he will sell fifteen tracts of land for taxes, if not paid before the day of sale. S. and B. Turman notify the people where they can procure cheap dry goods, etc. William Whipps gives notice of his appointment as administrator of the estate of Thomas J. Reed, lately deceased. Perrin Kent also gives notice to the effect that he has taken out letters of administration on the estate of John Taylor, late of Warren county, deceased. The widow and heirs of Jacob

Parke give due notice that they will make application to the next court to have commissioners appointed to assign and set off the widow's dower, in the real estate of said deceased. Dr. Waterman gives notice that the partnership heretofore existing between himself and Dr. Small is dissolved. Crawford & Jackson, proprietors of an oil mill, advertise that they will give the highest price for flax and hemp seed, or castor beans. George W. Palmer offers a one-horse wagon and harness cheap for cash. J. W. Downing, justice of the peace, gives notice that an iron gray mare taken up by James Rush was appraised by William T. Dole and A. M. H. Robinson at forty-five dollars before him on November 24, 1838. William Bales, sheriff, advertises the real estate of John Fousdick for sale at public auction to satisfy a judgment in favor of Silas Kellough, William Dunning and I. Dill. Joshua Skidmore, of Clinton, gives notice as follows: "Whereas my wife, Mary, has left my bed and board without just cause or provocation, I do hereby warn all persons, body politic, or corporate, and of whatever name or title, not to credit or harbor her on my account, as I am determined not to pay any of her debts after this date, January 1, 1839." The names of Durham Hood and Margaret Craft appear as administrators of the estate of John Craft, late of Eugene. Roseberry & Jewett, dry goods merchants, of Perrysville, occupy about one-third of a column in enumerating their large arrival of new goods. William J. Nichols and James H. Corey, of Eugene, inform the people where to get their saddles and cheap harness. Dr. T. S. Davidson tenders his professional services to the citizens of Perrysville and adjoining country. Hall & Gessie announce the reception of new goods in a neat two-inch card. Jones & Smith call attention in a four-inch card to their stock of fall and winter goods. Nathan Reed and J. H. McNutt request that those indebted to them for professional services come forward and square up by cash or note immediately. Jacob Riley informs the readers that he has found a silk handkerchief supposed to be worth a dollar and a quarter, which the owner can have by paying for the advertisement. G. W. Palmer, justice of the peace, gives notice that John Fultz has taken up two estray heifers which were appraised at six dollars each, by Samuel Lacy and James Crawford, before him December 15, 1838.

## CHAPTER XIII.

### BANKING.

The first banking house established in Vermillion county was the First National Bank, at Newport, by Josephus and John Collett, Abel Sexton, Isaac Porter, R. H. Nixon and Clark Leavitt, who opened up in a fine new bank building erected especially for that purpose, at the northwest corner of the public square. It was not long before it surrendered its "national" charter and under the same board of directors, it was changed in title to the Vermillion County Bank, with a paid-up capital of \$60,000 and a surplus of over \$6,000. In January, 1880, it was again changed, taking the name of Collett & Company's Bank, comprising Prof. John Collett, of Indianapolis, Stephen F. Collett, of Newport, Mrs. Henry H. Campbell, of Crawfordsville, and Joshua Jump of Newport. Later, S. S. Collett became general manager and J. D. Collett, cashier, and the capital in 1887 was \$27,000. This bank went out of business in 1892.

At Clinton, the Citizens Bank, now located at No. 141 Main street, was organized in April, 1893, with Decatur Downing, president; W. H. Bonner, cashier. The officers in 1912 were: William H. Robinson, president; William L. Morey, vice-president; A. W. Hedges, cashier; U. G. Wright, assistant cashier. The capital stock is now \$40,000, having been increased from \$22,000. The bank purchased a business block on the west side of Second street (usually called Main street), which they have occupied a number of years; at first they were located on the east side of the same street. The present directors of this institution are W. H. Robinson, David McBeth, W. L. Morey, M. M. Scott and A. W. Hedges. The total resources of the bank were, in the autumn of 1912, \$407,535.93.

At the close of business November 26, 1912, their statement to the auditor of state showed the following figures:

Loans and discounts	-----\$237,233.79	Due from other banks	----\$112,740.00
Overdrafts	-----129.23	Cash on hand	-----21,716.00
U. S. bonds	-----10,000.00	Checks and drafts	-----494.25
Other bonds and securities	-----19,500.00	Premiums paid on bonds	-----722.00
Banking house	-----5,000.00	Total resources	----- <u>\$407,535.93</u>

Capital stock . . . . .	\$ 40,000.00	Demand deposits . . . . .	\$315,254.52
Surplus . . . . .	30,000.00	Demand certificates . . . . .	14,488.04
Undivided profits . . . . .	3,700.00		
Exchange, discounts, etc. . . . .	4,093.37	Total liabilities . . . . .	\$407,535.93

The First National Bank at Clinton was organized in December, 1902, by L. A. Whitcomb. The officers were: James H. Wilson, president; Edward Shirke, vice-president; J. Clark Smith, cashier. The present and first capital of this institution was \$30,000. The present officers are: Joseph W. Strain, president; Edward Shirke, vice-president; O. F. Houston, cashier. The directors are: Edward Shirke, Harmon K. Morgan, Frank L. Swinehart, B. H. Morgan, Joseph W. Strain, John R. Newton, Hal R. McClellan. The November statement of this bank shows the following:

Loans and discounts . . . . .	\$188,373.36	Capital paid in . . . . .	\$ 30,000.00
Overdrafts . . . . .	146.95	Surplus . . . . .	11,000.00
U. S. bonds . . . . .	7,500.00	Undivided profits . . . . .	3,902.49
Other bonds . . . . .	14,000.00	Circulation . . . . .	7,500.00
Bank furniture and fixtures . . . . .	12,000.00	Deposits . . . . .	284,014.39
Due from banks and U. S . . . . .	94,312.16		
Cash in vault . . . . .	20,084.35		
Total resources . . . . .	\$339,416.88	Total liabilities . . . . .	\$339,416.88

The First National Bank of Dana was organized in 1901, with the same officers as are still serving: S. E. Scott, president; S. J. Hall, vice-president; Charles Wolfe, cashier; S. E. Scott, S. J. Hall, Charles Wolfe, T. H. Catlin, J. Jump, Joel Hollingsworth, S. E. Kaufman, Joseph Jackson and J. H. Fillinger, directors.

This bank commenced with a capital of \$25,000, which has been increased to \$40,000. Their statement September 4, 1912, reads as follows:

Loans and discounts . . . . .	\$192,039.72	Capital stock . . . . .	\$ 40,000.00
Overdrafts . . . . .	2,382.46	Surplus fund . . . . .	30,000.00
United States bonds . . . . .	25,000.00	Undivided profits . . . . .	1,630.89
Other bonds . . . . .	8,900.00	National bank notes—out . . . . .	25,000.00
Furniture and fixtures . . . . .	1,908.27	Unpaid dividends . . . . .	262.00
Cash and exchange . . . . .	118,066.96	Deposits . . . . .	251,404.52
Total resources . . . . .	\$348,297.41	Total liabilities . . . . .	\$348,297.41



Not receiving the regular data for the State Bank of Dana, the author has gathered the following concerning this institution. This bank was organized in 1885 and incorporated in 1905. Its present capital is \$30,000; surplus and undivided profits, \$14,000.

The First National Bank of Cayuga was organized August 1, 1908, when they erected their own bank building. This bank was established immediately after the failure of the private bank of Malone & Son. It now has a capital of \$25,000, with \$9,000 additional as a surplus, making \$34,000 of a working capital. The first officers were Oscar O. Hamilton and Matthew P. Hoover. The present officials are: Oscar O. Hamilton, president; Henry C. Randall, vice-president; Matthew P. Hoover, cashier. The present (1912) stockholders are Milton W. Coffin, William T. Coffin, Samuel Collison, Oscar O. Hamilton, Matthew P. Hoover, Monroe G. Hosford, Henry C. Randolph, George L. Watson, William H. Roach. At the close of business June 7, 1911, the following was the statement made by this bank:

Loans -----	\$100,326.99	Capital stock -----	\$ 25,000.00
U. S. bonds to secure cir-		Surplus -----	3,000.00
culation -----	25,000.00	Undivided profits -----	4,328.23
Bonds and securities ----	13,991.47	Circulation -----	24,990.00
Banking house, furniture		Reserved for taxes -----	304.16
and fixtures -----	8,000.00	Deposits -----	125,460.55
Cash on hand and due			
from banks -----	34,514.48		
Due from U. S. treasurer			
(5 per cent. fund) ---	1,250.00		
<hr/>		<hr/>	
Total resources -----	\$183,082.94	Total liabilities -----	\$183,082.94

The Citizens State Bank of Newport was organized in December, 1904, in which year they purchased the building in which they are still located. It was organized by the citizens of Newport and vicinity, who felt the need of a second bank at the county seat town. The first officers were: Maurice Hegerty, president; William P. Bell, cashier. There were originally forty-four stockholders and the capital was \$25,000. The present officers are: Maurice Hegerty, president; V. N. Asbury, cashier. The present board of directors are A. R. Newlin, Guy F. Newlin, C. P. Potts, Silas V. Morgan, M. L. Holt, Maurice Hegerty, E. B. Brown and Charles M. Fultz.

R. H. Nixon & Company's Bank, at Newport, was organized in 1872, with R. H. Nixon as its president. The same year in which the bank was

started a bank building was erected, and in 1892 the bank was partly burned, causing a loss of \$1,500 above the insurance collected. In 1886 the bank had its safe blown open, but the robbers did not succeed in entering the inner chest, hence the loss was only \$750. Its present capital is \$30,000, with surplus amounting to \$15,000. The officers now are: R. H. Nixon, president; H. V. Nixon, cashier; B. R. Nixon, assistant cashier.

## CHAPTER XIV.

### TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES.

Before the introduction of canals and railroads, or even before wagon roads had been provided, the Wabash valley was the center of attraction, for the Wabash river was the only means of transportation of products and supplies. The towns and villages along this river were thus made the centers of trade and exchange. All the adjoining region, to the east in Indiana and to the west in Illinois, was compelled to bring its produce to the river Wabash for transportation to New Orleans and other Southern ports and markets. At first flat-boats by hundreds and thousands, forty, fifty, sixty, one hundred and one hundred and twenty feet in length, were constructed, loaded with pork, hogs, beef cattle, corn, wheat, oats and hay and sent down south. Five hundred of these boats were sent out of the Big Vermillion river from Eugene, Danville and other points on that stream in a single season. Scarcely a day in the April, May and June floods but that from twenty to forty of these boats would pass. They were generally manned by a steersman, who also acted as captain; four oarsmen, with long side sweeps, and one general utility boy who did the cooking. Supplies of food were taken along, and no boat was considered safely equipped which had less than twenty gallons of whisky.

To the boatmen this journey was a source of delight and pleasure, and one that even attracted the attention of minds like that of Abraham Lincoln. There was something about the romance of these "down-river" trips that charmed the young and middle-aged. The water, the free open air, the natural scenery and health-giving exercise, all conspired to draw many men and youth into this occupation. Those who made these trips came home with a large fund of interesting stories of the Mississippi river and the cities along its either shore.

Dozens of captains and boatmen lived in Clinton, Eugene and Perrysville. Sometimes the boatmen would come north through the Cherokee Nation on foot. This trip, however, was considered a dangerous one on account of the noted gang of robbers known as "Murrell's Gang," of southern Illinois and western Kentucky. Many men from southern Indiana, Ohio and east Ken-

tucky were robbed, but fortunately none from Vermillion county were ever thus attacked.

Mercantile and other supplies were hauled by wagons across the Alleghany mountains, taken down the Ohio river in flat-boats and brought by keel-boats up the Wabash by push-poles and cordeling ropes, which were sent in advance, tied to trees and wound up on improvised capstans. The first steamboat made its appearance on the Wabash in 1820, and it was a great and much-talked-of event, creating much public excitement. The people, one and all, wondered and rejoiced at the steaming monster. The screaming fife, the throbbing drum and the roaring cannon welcomed the newly applied power. Soon steamers became more common, as one or more might have been seen passing each day up or down the gently winding banks of the Wabash. Once, when the Vermillion was at its flood-tide and the river at Perrysville was obstructed with ice, as many as eleven steamers sought harbor at Eugene.

#### FREIGHTING BY WAGONS.

Before steamboat days, however, especially in the autumn and summer months, goods were brought from Evansville and Cincinnati by wagon. Men usually went in companies for mutual protection and assistance, with five or six-horse teams. One of the lead horses always wore a set of bells. If a team got stuck in a mud hole, which they frequently did, it was the custom for any other teamster with the same number of horses to make an effort to pull the wagon out. In case of success the bells changed ownership. In this way the bells were constantly changing from one to another. In a few years the river boats superseded this expensive mode of shipping.

Twenty-five years and more ago it was written of Vermillion county: "The surface of Vermillion county is naturally far more favorable for wagoning than most counties in Indiana. In addition to this, the enterprising citizens have added the following well-established turnpikes: One from Newport to Walnut Grove and Eugene; Newport to Quaker Point; from a point on the latter to Dana; from Dana to Clinton; from Clinton to the state line, on the Paris road; Clinton to the county line, on the road to Terre Haute; from Perrysville southwest about eighty miles.

#### THE RAILROADS OF VERMILLION COUNTY.

Here in Vermillion, as in all Indiana counties, the systems of railroads have had much to do with the development of the county, the building and



undoing of long-ago-platted villages. As early as 1847—sixty-five years ago—an east and west line of railway was projected through the county, yet the north and south railroad (now the Chicago & Eastern Illinois) was the first to be completed. The division from Evansville to Terre Haute was built in 1853-4; but the link through Vermillion county, connecting Terre Haute with Danville, was not finished until it was taken up by Joseph Collett, Jr., in 1868-69. This wealthy, enterprising gentleman, assisted by O. P. Davis, Nathan Harvey, William E. Livengood, Joseph B. Cheadle and others, held rousing meetings throughout this county, and thoroughly, honestly explained the advantages of the railroad and the feasibility of building it with a very light tax. But little opposition was met with, nearly everyone desiring such a railroad communication. In 1869 all the townships in this county voted a two per cent. tax, the limit in Indiana for such purposes. It was really one per cent. in addition to the one per cent. tax which the county agreed to give, provided it should be needed.

While this enterprise was going forward, other men were working on what was styled the "Raccoon Valley Railroad Company," planning to construct a railroad from Harmony, Clay county, to a point on the state line, near the roadbed of the old Indiana & Illinois Central railroad, passing through Clay, Parke and Vermillion counties; but it was generally supposed by the citizens of Vermillion county to be a ruse, just prior to the vote to be taken on the north and south line, to defeat the latter. Another discouragement arose from other projected east and west lines, notably the narrow-gauge route through Eugene township, in which the people along that line felt much interest. The ensuing election, however, gave a decided majority for aiding the north and south line, then called the Evansville, Terre Haute & Chicago railroad. This, under the management of Mr. Collett, was completed in 1870, to the universal satisfaction of the people of Vermillion county, but not to many of the villages along its line, for the road was constructed in the interests of the traders at Terre Haute and Danville more than for the local good of these villages and towns in Vermillion county. The road was located a mile or more from many of these towns, except at Clinton, which took on new life and has prospered ever since, while many of the river towns have suffered by reason of this line having been located so far back from the original town sites.

Mr. Collett was elected president of the railroad and remained its executive head until May 1, 1880, when this link or division of the road was leased to the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Company, which corporation still owns and successfully operates it. In Vermillion county there are 34.12

miles of main track, and as early as 1880 it was assessed at \$17,000 per mile: seven miles of side-track, assessed at \$2,500 per mile, and rolling stock at \$1,300. The principal stations in this county are Clinton, Summit Grove, Hillsdale, Opeedee, Newport, Walnut Grove, Cayuga (Eugene), Perrysville, Gessie, and Rileysburg.

#### THE WABASH RAILROAD MISSED THIS COUNTY.

What is now known as the Wabash system was the first road proposed from east to west through Vermillion county. It was projected in 1847 and was designed to run from Toledo Ohio, to Springfield, Illinois. Stock was subscribed in Vermillion county and the route surveyed. The first effort was to build the road to Paris and then on to St. Louis. After much grading had been done, the enterprise changed management, and the result was that the route was changed and Lafayette and Attica obtained the road, instead of Vermillion county. It was finished in 1851-52. The men who worked day and night for this line to be located through Vermillion county were James Blair, J. F. Smith, J. N. Jones, of Perrysville, and Joseph Moore and Robert Barnett, of Eugene. But their work failed to secure for this county the coveted railroad. After struggling and waiting many long years a company was finally successful in obtaining two and one-fifth miles of railroad and a small flag station, the corporation being then styled the Indianapolis, Bloomington & Western, but in the late eighties this was taken over by the present system styled the "Big Four," which crosses the Wabash river at Covington, Fountain county, and simply touches Vermillion territory as above noted, less than three miles in distance of main track.

#### THE OLD INDIANAPOLIS, DECATUR AND SPRINGFIELD LINE.

This railway was completed in 1874, without much aid from the people. About 1854, when so many roads were projected and so few finished, the Indiana & Illinois Central Railway Company nearly completed the grading of this route. Later the Indianapolis, Bloomington & Western Company leased the road. It has nine and a half miles within Vermillion county, with station points at Hillsdale and one at Dana, near the state line between Indiana and Illinois. Subsequently, it passed into the hands of what is known as the Cincinnati, Hamilton & Dayton Company, and they operated it until the summer of 1912, when it was taken over by the Baltimore & Ohio system. It crosses the Wabash at Hillsdale, passes through the southern portion of Montezuma, and so on through Parke county.

## THE OLD NARROW GAUGE RAILROAD.

More than any other portion of Vermillion, the citizens of Eugene township were interested in the old narrow-gauge line. They voted a tax, took subscriptions, and aided in all possible ways, but finally the project failed. The link here was then known as the Frankfort & State Line Road. The Toledo, Cincinnati & St. Louis Railroad Company constructed the road, of a narrow gauge, in 1882, but, like the original company, left the village of Eugene a mile and a half away, crossing the Chicago & Eastern Illinois line at Cayuga. In 1886 the company was reorganized under the name of the Toledo, St. Louis & Kansas City Railway (narrow gauge). They proceeded to enlarge the track to the standard gauge, put on first-class rolling stock and made the highway in all respects up-to-date. The longest bridge on this road is the one crossing the Wabash opposite Eugene, having five spans of one hundred and sixty feet each. There are eight and one-half miles of this road within Vermillion county.

## THE ELECTRIC LINE.

Clinton, in this county, is the western terminus of the Terre Haute, Indianapolis & Eastern Traction Company, that has a line from Terre Haute to Clinton, and runs its interurban trains every hour of the day, making a great convenience for the people desiring to trade in Terre Haute. It is a well equipped electric highway with all modern improvements.

## THE CHICAGO, TERRE HAUTE AND SOUTHEASTERN.

This railroad was generally styled the "Walsh road" on account of its having been built largely through the capital furnished by that noted capitalist and Chicago banker, John R. Walsh, who finally was arrested for mismanagement of the people's money and, after serving in the government prison in Kansas for his ill-doings, was pardoned after several years, and soon died. This line of railroad, in its course from Chicago to the great coal fields of Indiana, runs through Danville and Terre Haute sections and, en route, traverses the western line of Vermillion county, with a station or two, including West Dana, where it crosses the old Cincinnati, Hamilton & Dayton road. It was projected and completed early in the first decade of this century, about 1905. It transports immense quantities of coal. The length of its main track in this county is a fraction over seventeen miles.

## PRESENT RAILROAD MILEAGE IN THE COUNTY.

According to the latest official returns to the state authorities, the following is the mileage for the various railroads within Vermillion county:

Clinton City—Chicago & Eastern Illinois, eighty-nine one-hundredths miles.

Dana (town)—The Indianapolis, Bloomington & Western (now Baltimore & Ohio), one-half mile.

Newport (town)—Chicago & Eastern Illinois, twenty-four one-hundredths miles.

Cayuga (town)—Chicago & Eastern Illinois, ninety-eight one hundredths miles.

Clinton City—Chicago & Eastern Illinois, eighty-nine one-hundredths miles.

Highland Township—Chicago & Eastern Illinois, eight and eighty-seven one-hundredths miles. Peoria & Eastern, two and nineteen one-hundredths miles.

Eugene Township—Chicago & Eastern Illinois, six and nine one-hundredths miles. Toledo, St. Louis & Western, five and seventy-nine hundredths miles.

Vermillion Township—Chicago & Eastern Illinois, six and seventy-three one-hundredths miles. Chicago, Terre Haute & Southeastern, two and twenty-nine one-hundredths miles.

Clinton Township—Chicago & Eastern Illinois, one and eighty-five hundredths miles. Chicago, Terre Haute & Southeastern, six and three one-hundredths miles.

Helt Township—Chicago & Eastern Illinois, nine miles. Chicago, Terre Haute & Southeastern, nine miles. The C. I. & W. line, eight and seventy-four hundredths miles.

Total mileage in county, seventy-two and sixty-five one hundredths miles. Main line tracks only given.

## GRAVEL ROADS IN THE COUNTY.

In 1910 the following gravel roads were listed by the county as having been constructed and then in use:

In Highland township there were sixty miles.

In Eugene township there were twenty-three miles.



In Vermillion township there were fifty-one miles.

In Helt township there were seventy-six miles.

In Clinton township there were sixty-six miles.

The average number of miles per township was fifty-five and sixty-eight one-hundredths miles. The total mileage in Vermillion county was at that date three hundred.

## CHAPTER XV.

### AGRICULTURAL INTERESTS.

Indiana is a farming state, and among her small, but excellent, agricultural districts is Vermillion county, washed by the western shores of the famous Wabash river. Indeed it has been long ago remarked that "every foot of this county is good farming land." Originally, one-fourth of its area was prairie and three-fourths timber land. The most of the prairie land is a rich black soil, while the remainder of the county is rich bottom land of the first and second variety. The entire county is easily drained and available to good cultivation. Especially the lower bottom lands are rich, much of it being subject to inundations, which leaves a sediment equal to the soil found in the celebrated valley of the Nile in Egypt. Here corn is supremely enthroned as king of the crops produced. Also as high as sixty-five bushels of wheat have been raised per acre, while one hundred and ten bushels of corn have been raised in Vermillion county.

At an early day, flax was grown in immense quantities. The flax produced was mixed with cotton purchased, and woven into cloth. Then every house was a miniature factory. The machinery used for manufacturing flax consisted of a brake, a wooden knife to swingle out shives with, a hetchel or hackle to remove the tow and straighten out the lint. They also used the small spinning wheel ("jenny") to twist it into thread. For cotton, a hand gin was used, and hand cards were employed to make it into rolls, which were spun into thread upon a large spinning-wheel. A day's work for a woman was to card and spin from six to eight cuts. Ready-made clothing was not then known in the markets of the world. Nearly every man was his own shoemaker. Some of the more busy settlers employed an itinerant cobbler, who usually made his trips from house to house in the autumn months and winter season, having with him his little kit of shoemaker's tools, with which he took the measure and made by hand the boots and shoes needed in the family. If the leather ran out before the youngest child was "shod," then he or she had to go without shoes, which often happened.

When this county was first settled, no one could take less than a quarter section of land, which at government price was two dollars per acre, and this

often strained the purse of the would-be land buyer. Congress soon found out the hardship this worked and, desiring that all should be permitted to engage in farming pursuits, which is the policy of all progressive governments, it reduced the amount that might be entered to forty acres, and placed the price at one dollar and a quarter per acre, which permitted anyone who could raise fifty dollars to secure a comfortable home for himself and family, if he was fortunate in having one to help him enjoy the independence and battle with the hardships of a true-hearted pioneer farmer. Many men took advantage of this wise congressional provision and entered from forty to one hundred and sixty acres of Vermillion county land. This was the base of the agricultural prosperity found on every hand in this county today.

While statistics are usually "dry reading," these must be presented in order to show the resources of the soil and mine. Hence the reader is referred to extracts from state reports on the subject, and in this case the items will be condensed as far as practicable, and are as follows, for the year 1880—thirty-two years ago—and also for 1910:

In 1880, Vermillion county was reported to have produced 635,000 bushels of wheat; of corn, 663,000 bushels; oats, 76,000 bushels; barley, 1,780 bushels; rye, more than 5,000 bushels; Irish potatoes, 18,000 bushels; sweet potatoes, 840 bushels; buckwheat, 160 bushels; tobacco, 1,700 pounds; timothy seed, 800 bushels.

In 1910 the reports show: Corn raised, 45,000 acres, 1,739,000 bushels; oats, 18,857 acres, 599,000 bushels; wheat, 12,252 acres, 230,000 bushels; rye, 257 acres, 3,772 bushels; clover seed 361 acres, 34,508 bushels; hay and forage, 11,000 acres, 15,000 tons; timothy, 7,644 acres, 9,701 tons; cattle, valued at \$216,000; horses, \$504,000; mules, \$55,000; swine, \$134,000; sheep, \$17,000; poultry, \$45,600; colonies of bees, 762, value of bees, \$2,943.

In 1910 there were 1,355 farms in the county, and they were divided as follows: 347 from 50 to 100 acres; 335 from 100 to 174 acres; 148 from 175 to 260 acres; 89 from 260 to 500 acres; 12 from 500 to 1,000 acres and two from 1,000 and over.

The per cent. of land area in farms ninety-one and eight-tenths.

Farm land improved, eighty per cent. Average number of acres per farm, 110.2. Value of farm property, \$13,373,000. Average price per acre in county, \$71.79; average in 1900 was \$39.51.

Among the first plows used in this and other counties in Indiana was the one called the "bull" plow. The stock, or wood-work, of these plows was generally made by the farmer himself. The handles were the butts of bushes, the crooked roots forming the hand-hold. The beam was hewed by

hand from small, tough oak. The mold-boards were made from blocks of wood about twenty inches square and two inches to three inches thick. The inner or straight side of the mold-board was fastened to the handle and the outer surface was hewn out in an irregular shape. The wing of the share extended high up the mold-board. A loop of iron made the point. It took a good team, a strong man and twelve hours hard work to plow from one to one and a half acres with such a plow, says Smith in his history of Indiana.

The harrow was made V shaped with wooden teeth, the whole made by the farmer himself. Wheat had to be harvested by a sickle, with which an expert could cut about three-fourths of an acre a day. In 1840, the Peacock plow was introduced, being named for its inventor. This implement enabled the farmer to plow much more than formerly and do better work.

Corn ground was "laid off" both ways (no check-rowers and planters); the wife, son or daughter would drop the corn at the intersections, while the farmer would follow along with his hoe and properly cover the seed. Wheat, oats and barley were all sowed broadcast, by hand, from a sack swung over the neck and shoulders. But few men could be hired, and in fact it was well, for the farmer had little with which to pay for help, could it have been obtained. Each family did their own farm work in those days. However, in harvest time, there were many roving bands of "grain cutters," who were experts with a sickle, who started in at the southern part of the state and worked north with the advancing harvest time. The best reapers could get thirty-seven and a half cents per day and their board, or one bushel of wheat. It was not until 1840 that the grain cradle came into general use in this country. A good cradler could cut and shock about two acres a day, "between sun and sun." Previous to 1840, grain was threshed with a flail, or trod out by horses. Two men could flail out twelve bushels a day and two men and horses could tramp out and winnow and separate the grain from the chaff, about twenty bushels a day. The winnowing and separating the grain from the chaff was done by hand sieves. The mixed chaff and grain was poured from above on the bed sheet, while two men would vibrate the sheet so as to create a current of air, which would blow the chaff from the grain. The first threshing machine was introduced in 1839. With four horses and nine men, two hundred bushels of wheat could be threshed and cleaned in a day. The wheat had to go through a second cleaning process later on, before it was suited for the mill. It took three men two days to clean and tie up in sacks what would be threshed in one day.

The scythe was the only grass mower for mowing meadows. A good,



strong man could generally cut from one to two acres a day, between daylight and dark. The hand rake was then used to rake up the "cutting" and it was then stacked by means of wooden forks. With a modern mowing machine, one man and his team can easily cut ten acres a day and, with a steel-toothed horse rake, he can gather it for stacking purposes in about the same time. The stacking is done now, usually, by a steel fork operated by a man with a horse or team. Before the introduction of improved machinery, about 1840, it took one man twenty-four days to plow, seed and harvest ten acres of wheat and forty-four days to plow, plant, cultivate and harvest ten acres of corn.

The decrease in annual crops does not in the least indicate the decline in agricultural interests, but simply is made plain by stating that rotation of crops, and putting more land into pasture, at certain times, causes this fluctuation in figures in the reports given by the assessor to the department of agriculture.

The fruit crops, one year with another, in Vermillion county are good, and a paying proposition to the horticulturist. Apples, pears and peaches all do well, and many years the crop of pears has been indeed wonderful, both as to quality and quantity. Within three miles of Clinton, two years ago, there were raised a thousand bushels of choice pears, on one farm, which the following season had half that amount. All varieties of small fruits do well in this section of the state, and add much to the resources of the farm. While many vegetables are grown here, the farmer makes the major part of his money from the production of corn and the stock that he raises and feeds for the markets of the world. "The Wabash Bottoms" have been known since the first advent of white tillers of the rich soil, to be famous as a corn-growing section.

#### AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

Naturally, a good farming county has good farm associations and agricultural societies, by which one farmer may see the manner in which his fellow-farmer produces crops. Not nearly enough attention, however, is paid to this matter, and in consequence the farmer and business man suffers loss. Whoever causes two blades of grass to grow where one grew before, or he who shows a corn raiser how to produce ten bushels of corn more per acre, is really and truly a great benefactor to the entire human race. Vermillion county was slow to realize the importance of organizing and keeping up annual fairs, and not until 1866, just after the close of the Civil war, was any attempt made to form an agricultural society. One was then formed

and continued to hold its annual exhibits at Newport until 1879, when, on account of the railroad running through the grounds of the society, public opinion so changed and interest was so slackened that it was practically abandoned. In 1880 a joint-stock company was organized, but that never materialized to any considerable extent. In 1887 two agricultural societies were organized, one, the Vermillion County Fair Association, having its headquarters at Eugene, and another, the Vermillion County Joint-Stock Society, with headquarters at the county seat, Newport. Both societies held fairs that year, but on account of the bad weather the one at Eugene was a dismal failure, while the one at Newport had receipts amounting to two thousand two hundred dollars and every premium was paid in full. Two hundred and fifty stalls were occupied by horses and cattle. Steam water-works and reservoirs were used. No drunkenness or gambling was allowed on the grounds and all passed off as it should. Of later years the county fairs have been allowed to run down and none are now held—and it is to be regretted, too.

## CHAPTER XVI.

### THE COAL MINING INDUSTRY.

Aside from agriculture, the greatest source of annual revenue to the citizens of Vermillion county are its coal mines, which are very extensive and prolific of much output, returning a large revenue to the operators and people in general, who reap from the immense shipments of the best grade of bituminous coal found in the state. As large as the mining interest is already, it has been estimated by experts in coal lands, and by geologists, that the zenith of its development will not have been reached for another quarter of a century. The six principal coal mining companies are operating nearly a score of separate mines, and are employing upwards of three thousand men. One of the largest and most thoroughly modern, up-to-date collieries in the United States is located near Clinton, the Bunsen Coal Company, a subsidiary of the United States Steel Corporation. More than three and one-half million dollars are invested in this one plant for mining soft coal. When one contemplates the fact that the coal measure of the United States is limited to a few states, and to a small portion of these few states, and that more than ninety million people are depending largely on these coal mines for their fuel, both for domestic and manufacturing purposes, it will be better understood what a prize Vermillion county has locked up within her hills and valleys. The subjoined table will show the production of coal in Vermillion county, as contrasted with the other great coal-bearing counties of Indiana, in 1910, as per the state reports. Of the total number of tons, there were 17,429,785 tons of bituminous and 875,459 tons of block coal. Accompanying the item of production, this table also shows the wages paid.

County.	Tons Produced.	Wages Paid.
Sullivan -----	4,339,173	\$ 3,703,122
Vigo -----	4,116,981	3,612,856
Greene -----	3,241,690	2,532,927
Vermillion -----	1,676,281	1,446,481
Knox -----	1,045,868	720,091
Clay -----	948,402	1,064,757
Parke -----	727,727	780,260

Warrick -----	701,390	\$ 559,108
Pike -----	599,952	485,978
Vanderburg -----	369,987	295,534
Gibson -----	285,101	255,286
Daviess -----	72,692	70,986
<hr/>		<hr/>
Total -----	18,125,244	\$15,527,390

An early account of the development of the coal industry in Vermillion county reads as follows, the same having been compiled in 1887: "The Norton Creek coal mines are located on the line between Clinton and Helt townships, on section 5 of Clinton township and section 32 of Helt township. Their development commenced in the month of December, 1884. F. A. Bowen was the proprietor and Charles P. Walker, of Clinton, the superintendent and manager. In the spring of 1885, under the general laws of Wisconsin, the 'Norton Creek Coal Mining Company' was organized, with a paid-up capital of \$40,000, with its general offices at Milwaukee, Wisconsin. H. M. Benjamin, of that city, is the president of the company, and Charles P. Walker, of Clinton, Indiana, superintendent and treasurer, and general agent for Indiana. Connected with the property are two hundred and fifty-five acres of land. The mines are about two and one-half miles west of the Eastern Illinois Railroad and connected by a spur track. The company also owns the old Briar Hill mines, on section 9, Clinton township, but they are not now being worked.

"On the southeast portion of section 5 is located the company's large mercantile establishment and local offices, which, with twenty-seven tenement houses, constitutes quite a village, called Geneva, named in honor of a daughter of Superintendent Walker. The sales of coal in 1886 reached \$160,000, and the mercantile establishment \$42,000. Near the mines are several tenement houses, and at the Briar Hill mines eleven houses. All are occupied by employes of the company. The business is increasing, owing to the excellent quality of coal produced. Commencing with the winter of 1887-88 an average working force of three hundred men are employed."

Great had been the change by 1910, when the state reports show that 1,042 miners were employed in this county, who were using the pick in mining bituminous coal; received \$829,000 wages, or \$672 average per man during the year named. Then besides these men there were 286 miners engaged in bituminous "machine mines," receiving \$228,400 per year.

The state reports of two years ago—1910—exhibit the following facts concerning the mines in operation in Vermillion county:



Name of Mine.	Tons Produced.	Wages Paid.
Dering No. 8-----	276,143	\$ 227,543
Eureka -----	2,763	2,620
Crown Hill No. 1-----	269,241	239,691
Crown Hill No. 2-----	244,533	208,682
Maple Valley' -----	37,784	34,826
Buckeye No. 2-----	236,874	203,687
Klondyke -----	266,628	203,721
Crown Hill No. 3-----	244,284	230,310
Crown Hill No. 4-----	18,926	20,850
Oak Hill -----	7,050	74,470
Totals -----	1,604,026	\$1,446,000

## AVERAGE WAGES OF EMPLOYEES.

The wages paid here are about in keeping with the average in Indiana, of which the state reports two years ago said: "The total wages reported from the bituminous field being \$14,318,196.12, shows an average of \$741.87 for each bituminous mine employe, and the total wages paid to block coal miners being \$1,209,194.60, shows an average earning of \$646.27 for each block coal employe; the aggregate wages for the state being \$15,527,390.72 and the total number of employes in the state 21,171, shows an average earning of \$733.42 for each mine employe in the state."

## MARKET PRICES FOR COAL.

The following were the approximate prices received for the Indiana coal product in 1910, according to the last obtainable official reports: The market prices for bituminous coal during the period from January to April 1 (except yearly contracts) ranged from \$1.15 to \$1.75 per ton for mine run, free on board cars at the mine, the highest prices prevailing during the month of March. More coal was produced in this month than either of the two months preceding; \$1.40 would probably be a fair average selling price for this period. From May to October 1 prices ranged from \$2.50 down to \$1.35; but a fair average for that period would be \$1.95 per ton. From October to January 1 prices fluctuated, ranging from \$1.35 to \$1.50 and as low as \$1.15; \$1.35 would be a fair average for this period, or a probable average of \$1.60 per ton for bituminous coal (mine run) for the year. Market prices for block

coal ranged from \$2.25 to \$3.25 per ton at the mines, \$2.75 being a fair average for the year.

The cost of production from the bituminous fields of Indiana was figured a fraction in excess of eighty-three cents per ton for the labor cost for the total output of bituminous coal. The total wages for the block coal field was \$1,209,194, or a fraction over \$1.38 per ton for labor cost of production of block coal.

In reviewing the mining industry for Indiana for the year of 1910, a gratifying condition of affairs was disclosed in many branches of this important industry. A larger increase in the production of coal, stronger and steadier market demands, a higher average selling price for all grades of coal, the highest average wage earned by mine employes, fewer strikes and a much larger tonnage per each fatal, permanent or serious accident to mine employes are shown than in any preceding year in the history of the state. In 1910 the production was 18,125,244 short tons, an increase of a fraction over thirty-two per cent. over 1909, the highest previous year in coal production in Indiana.

A certain per cent. of this increase came from every county in the state, except Fountain and Perry counties, with one mine in each, which were idle or working less than ten men. The largest increase came from Vermillion, Vigo and Sullivan counties, and was produced by machine mines. Sullivan county, with 1,539,000 tons, showed the largest increase of all the counties, while Knox and Vermillion were not far behind.

#### DISTRIBUTION OF THE PRODUCT.

Of the bituminous coal output in the state in 1910, 7,968,732 tons were consumed in Indiana and 9,281,048 were shipped to other states, and of the block coal, 266,918 tons were consumed in Indiana and 608,541 tons shipped to other states, or a fraction over fifty-four per cent. of the entire production shipped to other states.

#### VERMILLION COUNTY MINES, 1910.

The following table gives the name, owners, the geological number of the different coal seams, character, thickness of seam and depth over overlying strata, of the mines being operated in Vermillion county in 1910:

		Geographical		
Name of Company.	Name of Mine.	No.	Thickness.	Depth.
Brazil Block -----	Dering No. 8-----	IV	5 Ft. 3 In.	200 Ft.
Silverwood -----	Eureka -----	M	4 Ft. 6 In.	110 Ft.
Clinton Coal Co.---	Crown Hill No. 1--	V	4 Ft. 10 In.	165 Ft.
Clinton Coal Co.---	Crown Hill No. 2--	V	4 Ft. 10 In.	155 Ft.
Clinton Coal Co.---	Crown Hill No. 3--	III	6 Ft.	345 Ft.
Clinton Coal Co.---	Crown Hill No. 4--	IV	4 Ft. 6 In.	249 Ft.
Clinton Coal Co.---	Crown Hill No. 5--	V	5 Ft.	182 Ft.
Oak Hill Coal Co.---	Oak Hill No. 50---	V	4 Ft. 10 In.	57 Ft.
Oak Hill Coal Co.---	Maple Valley -----	V	5 Ft. 6 In.	225 Ft.
Oak Hill Coal Co.---	Buckeye No. 2-----	V	4 Ft. 8 In.	149 Ft.
Oak Hill Coal Co.---	Klondyke -----	III	7 Ft.	300 Ft.

The only fatal accident reported to the state in 1910 was that of an Italian named Tomso Carlevatto, aged thirty-four years, killed by a falling boulder, at Crown Hill No. 1, on March 7, 1910.

#### NEW MINES.

In 1910 there were two new mines opened and their first shipments of coal were made in the early days of December of that year. These mines are Crown Hill No. 4 and 5, both owned and operated by the Clinton Coal Company. No. 4 is located on the southwest quarter of the northeast quarter of section 29, township 14, range 9, in Clinton township; No. 5 is located on the southwest quarter of the northwest quarter of section 24, township 14, range 10, Clinton township. No. 4 mine is a machine mine, while No. 5 is a hand producing mine, both bituminous coal, running from four feet six inches to five feet in thickness of vein.

#### MINERS AND APPLIANCES.

The state reports give in 1910 the following concerning the miners and appliances with which they work in getting out the vast tonnage of coal:

	Total Men employed.	Mules Used.	Powder Used.
Dering No. 8-----	298	23	11,460 pounds.
Eureka -----	18	3	87 pounds.
Crown Hill No. 1-----	290	16	18,238 pounds.
Crown Hill No. 2-----	244	17	17,529 pounds.
Maple Valley -----	95	4	2,448 pounds.
Buckeye No. 2-----	225	28	14,952 pounds.
Klondyke -----	217	15	13,291 pounds.
Totals -----	1,387	106	84,010 pounds.

## THE LAST AND LARGEST MINES.

The most extensive coal mines within the county, or state, are the property of the Bunsen Coal Company, which corporation opened their works in the month of October, 1911, on section 31, township 14, range 9 west. The president of the company is T. H. Lynch; the secretary and treasurer, W. S. Wardley; the general superintendent, C. F. Lynch, and the superintendent, Charles Karral. The present machinist is George Finnigan. These mines are about six miles to the southwest of the city of Clinton. Three hundred and twenty men are now employed at the works, which are constantly developing and widening out. Twenty-six mules are used under the ground for drawing the cars to the shaft opening, from which it is hoisted by powerful, modern machinery to the surface and then dumped into the waiting coal cars of the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad, which line transports most of the product to South Chicago. More than three and one-half million dollars have been invested in this plant, which now consists of Universal Mine No. 4, which is one hundred and sixty-five feet beneath the surface, and has a vein of four feet and eleven inches in thickness; Universal Mine No. 5, two hundred and thirty-six feet deep, with a vein thickness of four feet ten inches. These mines bear the geological numbers of four and five.

The output in December, 1912, was averaging about eighteen hundred tons per day, and it is expected that soon the two mines, which are very near one another, will have a daily output of three thousand three hundred tons daily. The motto of this company is "Safety, the First Consideration." The scientific care exercised about these immense coal-producing mines is indeed wonderful, even to the casual observer. Every appliance of safety, convenience and comfort is given the miners. The buildings consist of seventeen residences for the use of the officers and superintendents; the offices, power house, bath house, fan houses, boiler house, blacksmith shops, granary, mule barns, supply house, two tipples and two engine rooms. The bath house, as well as all other buildings around the plant proper, is constructed of cement and is fire proof. The bath house is built on modern plans for miners. Here are afforded hot and cold water, the year round. Here the miners and other helpers go and removing their good clothes, put on their rough working suits, the suits not in use being suspended high up in the spacious bath house, fastened by a strong chain and lock, the key being carried by the miners, so nothing can be stolen, even to money in the pockets, as all are hung high up to the ceiling and no one but the owner can get them down. Upon coming from the



mine the men go at once, if they choose, to this bath room, and there take a wash and shower bath before putting on their better suits, when they come forth not looking like ordinary miners, but neat and clean. One hundred and sixty-five miners, in December, 1912, were availing themselves of the free use of this bath house. The owners and managers of this plant have profited by the experience of the past methods employed in coal mining, and bettered every condition as far as safety and comfort is concerned, that is possible, under present conditions and knowledge. A high class of men are employed. From officers down, the mines are run by men of intelligence and sobriety.

At the site of the mines has been located a village, in which there are already numerous business houses and a postoffice called Universal, which was established in October, 1912. The coal company has no interest in this village, its site or business interests. They do not conduct the usual "mine store," out of which so much dissatisfaction has come in other mining places. Less than two years ago there was not a house on the present site of Bunsen; it has grown like magic and is destined to grow rapidly as the development of the mines increases. It may be added that both "hand" and "machine" mines are operated—Universal No. 4 is machine, while No. 5 is hand mined coal.

## CHAPTER XVII.

### MISCELLANEOUS TOPICS.

Herein are to be found various items and topics not sufficient in length to form a separate chapter, but which are replete with interest and valuable facts concerning the county's history.

#### THE OLD INDIANA IRON FURNACE.

Every section of the country that has been settled by civilized people for a century or more has, strewn along at various points within its territory, some interesting landmarks of enterprises once of great value and importance to the community, but which have long since gone to decay and can only be traced by the traditions of men and a few material objects, such as rusted-out machinery, an old water-wheel, a spindle, a shaft or some tumble-down structure in which once was heard the hum of swiftly moving machinery. All is now silent, save the memory of some old man or woman who perchance recalls those pioneer days and delights in telling the present generation of those days when life was active and earnest to him and his companions.

In 1839 what was styled the "Indiana Furnace" in Clinton township, this county, was in full blast. It was the result of the discovery of paying quantities of iron ore within the community, and it grew to be among the most extensive industries in the Wabash valley. Here probably was produced the first pig-iron in Indiana. Geologists inform us, however, that the principal iron ore found in this county is an impure carbonate, occurring in nodules and irregular layers or bands. These nodules once supplied the material for the furnace on Brouillet's creek, where they yielded thirty-three per cent. of iron. The ore in Vermillion county is said to range from twenty-five to forty-five per cent. of iron. Along in the eighties there was discovered in the Norton creek bottoms, near the head of Helt's prairie, a bed of bog iron ore, said to be three feet thick and covering an area of from six to eight acres. This, however, has never been developed.

The opening of the iron mines in Clinton township, in 1837, was the commencement of the iron industry here. The old Indiana Furnace was in section 27, township 14, range 10. Stephen R. Uncles was the chief owner

and superintendent. Associated with him were Hugh Stuart and Chester Clark, the firm being Uncles & Company. Years later the land and iron works passed into the hands of Stuart & Sprague, and still later to E. M. Bruce & Company, the "company" being David Stinton.

In 1859 George B. Sparks, of Clinton, bought a controlling interest and, under the firm name of G. B. Sparks & Company, the business was continued until 1864. Quite a village of cabins for the use of the workmen, and large company supply store, with shops and other buildings, might have greeted the eye of the traveler away back in the thirties and forties, when this was looked upon as a new country. Here the iron ore was cast into "pigs," then re-cast into many kinds of castings, such as mill machinery, and especially into stoves, which were then just coming into general use as a household necessity. From these furnaces went forth thousands of tons of castings and pig iron, into the markets of the central West. Many a boat on the Wabash was freighted with the products of this furnace and foundry. Here many found employment at good wages. The money thus paid out freely circulated in the neighborhood and made times quite lively. There were 1,700 acres of land connected with the furnaces, and all was owned in 1887 by George B. Sparks, who used the greater portion of it for agricultural purposes. Even at that date there was nothing to remind one of the once smoking, flaming, consuming fires of the Indiana Furnace and the little hamlet that stood near the dingy plant, save a few cabins, almost ruined by decay, and here and there a piece of machinery heavily coated with the rust of years. The fires had long since been quenched, because of more improved methods, a better grade of iron ore, and more modern facilities, those which were ushered in with the true "Iron Age" that commenced at the close of the Civil war.

There are still a few persons living in the county who remember the busy spot known as the "Furnaces," and recall the long string of teams employed in drawing the ore from the mines and in conveying the manufactured metal, in "pigs" and in stove-plate and cooking utensils, to the waiting flat-boats on the banks of the near-by Wabash. The iron industry was of short duration as compared to that of coal mining, which is now the great king of Vermillion county industries.

From a recent history of Indiana, by Smith, we quote the following concerning the early iron industry: "Limonite or bog-iron ores are found in many Indiana counties, including Vermillion. Experience has proven that these ores are too silicious to compete with the rich beds of hermatite of Missouri, Tennessee and Georgia. As a proof of this it is only necessary to state

that of fourteen blast-furnaces which have been erected in Indiana in the past, not one is now in operation and most of them have long since been in ruin and decay. The last furnace went out of business in 1893."

POLITICAL AND ELECTION RETURNS.

While it is not the province of this work to go into the details of the political history of Vermillion county, which has, in common with other counties of Indiana, been one fraught with many interesting events, it must here suffice to simply refer incidentally to the political complexion of the county, as found in the presidential election returns.

At an early day there was a good sprinkling of the Whig party element within Vermillion county and from this sprang the Republicans of a later era, which element is now very strong. In and near the village of Perrysville, in 1844, the Whigs were strong as a party and to show their enthusiasm the following little instrument is introduced to the reader:

"Perrysville, Ind., July 10, 1844.

"Dr. R. M. Waterman, Lodi:

"Respected Sir: Owing to the political excitement of the times, and to the expected visit of Mr. R. W. Thompson to our place on next Friday, with all creation besides, we have been induced to ask you to favor the Whigs of this place with the loan of your cannon for Friday next. We wish to put a stop to the noise of this little loco-foco pocketpiece with a few rounds from a Whig gun.

"Yours, etc.,

"Thomas H. Smith, ——— Barnes, John Kirkpatrick, David Hulick, James Blair, B. H. Boyd, M. Gookins, C. R. Jewett, R. Haven, W. H. Brown, Joseph Cheadle, W. B. Moffatt, J. S. Baxter, R. J. Gessie S. Barnes, A. Hill, C. F. McNeill, Jacob Sherfy, Austin Bishop, J. S. Stephens, B. R. Howe, John R. McNeill, A. Dennis, G. H. McNeill."

At the commencement of the Civil war, Vermillion county was about evenly divided as to Democrats and Republicans, but fortunately did not have a large number of the "stay-at-home stripe" in either party, hence the few "copperheads" did not dare make as much disturbance as in many parts of the Hoosier state. Lincoln was elected and Vermillion county gave him about as many votes as the opposition party had. The presidential vote



since the Civil war closed, beginning with the election of Gen. U. S. Grant in 1868, has been as follows:

1868—U. S. Grant (R) maj--	457	1896—William McKinley (R) _	1,781
Horatio Seymour (D) _		William J. Bryan (D) _	2,131
1872—U. S. Grant (R), maj--	750	1900—William McKinley (R) _	2,203
Horace Greeley (Lib.) _		William J. Bryan (D) _	1,767
1876—R. B. Hayes (R) _ _ _ _	1,358	Joshua Levering (Pro.)	107
Samuel J. Tilden (D) _ _	1,114	1904—Theo. Roosevelt (R) _ _	2,724
1880—Gen. James A. Garfield		Alton B. Parker (D) _	1,437
(R) _ _ _ _ _	1,562	Swallow (Pro.) _ _ _ _	328
W. S. Hancock (D) _ _	1,235	Watson (Peoples) _ _ _	29
James B. Weaver (G) _	149	1908—William Howard Taft	
John W. Phelps (Nat.) _	1	(R) _ _ _ _ _	2,502
1884—James G. Blaine (R) _ _	1,591	William J. Bryan (D) _	1,812
Grover Cleveland (D) _	1,320	Eugene V. Debs (Soc.) _	407
1888—Benjamin Harrison (R)	1,729	E. W. Chafin (Pro.) _ _	217
Grover Cleveland (D) _	1,448	1912—William Howard Taft	
C. B. Fisk (Pro.) _ _ _	87	(R) _ _ _ _ _	1,621
1892—Benjamin Harrison (R)	1,709	Woodrow Wilson (D) _	1,780
Grover Cleveland (D) _	1,428	Theo. Roosevelt (Pro.)	680
Bidwell (pro.) _ _ _ _ _	81	E. V. Debs (Soc.) _ _ _	550
Jas. B. Weaver (Peo.) _	189		

#### THE GATHERING STORM.

The files of the *Saturday Argus*, of Clinton, published by L. O. Bishop, in June, 1911, contained the interesting reminiscence of fifty years ago in Clinton and Vermillion county, and, bearing on the political issues of those days, it is here quoted as follows:

"Perhaps in the minds of the younger readers of these memories will arise the question, Why, in view of the fact that Clinton was so far from the slave country, and a part of the North, was there such a powerful pro-slavery sentiment here? Allow me to digress from the main line of my story to answer this question. It must be borne in mind that at that time in which I write of Clinton, it had but one door open to the commerce of the world, and that was south via the Wabash, Ohio, Mississippi rivers. New Orleans was our great clearing house. It was no uncommon sight to see a fleet of flat-boats tied up along the river front in those days, unloading sugar, coffee, tobacco, rice, dry goods and tons of other manufactured goods

and commodities and taking on corn and wheat and pork for the South. These flat boats were operated by hand. And it required several months to make a round trip. The stories of river adventure and frolic and tragedy, if written, would make up some of the richest reading matter to be found in any literature. But it was commercialism that reached out from the great slave market and sent its poison up through the natural arteries of the physical country and thus stupefied and held captive for years the mind, the heart and conscience of the people until such prophets as Owen Lovejoy and John Brown and William Lloyd Garrison, like John the Baptist, came crying through the wilderness, 'Awake! repent, and throw off the horrid spell.'

"The only competitor this river ever had was the Wabash & Erie canal, which then extended up from Evansville, somewhat parallel with the Wabash river, via Terre Haute, Lafayette to Toledo. Over this slow and tedious route a considerable commerce was conducted until the early sixties, when the absence of labor at home practically put it out of business. But there is in this connection a fundamental fact that cannot be too strongly emphasized and applied to the problems of today, and that is this: Unrestricted control and use of the means of communication and transportation is a source of strength that is absolutely indispensable to the welfare of the people. So when this struggle came on the people of Clinton found themselves at one end of a river which ran at the other end to the very heart of the slave country, and was controlled by the slave power along every inch of its tortuous route from St. Louis to the Gulf of Mexico. Thus our commerce was bottled up and the stopper was in the South. Clinton felt this condition. It affected all classes. The slave power had many and effective agents at work all through this part of the country. Among them, preachers like Parson Brownlow. The only other outlet was to the north by wagon route to Chicago, and it was far more uncertain and expensive than was the easy flat boat ride down stream to New Orleans. When one closely understands how strong was this commercial bond between the South and the middle West through the medium of these great rivers then it will be seen that the West made a greater sacrifice than any other part of the country, for the Eastern states had their railroads to the seaboard and then all the world beyond as a field over which to roam for trade. And then, again, population was sparse.

"The population of Clinton in 1860 was not over two hundred and fifty. As late as 1865 men used to sit in Johnny Rhyan's little old shoe shop and take a complete census of every man, woman, child, horse, cow, jack, chicken, dog and cat. And when they had taken the census, how they used to swell up with pride, and exclaim, 'See how we have grown in ten years.'

"That my estimate was correct was shown Friday by J. H. Bogart, who in less than ten minutes' time recalled and named every family, store, warehouse and shop in Clinton in 1861. Not only is this feat remarkable for memory, and shows how men preserve their fine mental powers, including that of memory, but it shows the rapidity with which Clinton has grown. Just think of it. Here is a town of only two hundred and fifty in 1861, whereas today (1911) the place has reached seven thousand, and instead of thirty-five blocks, today covers over a square mile.

"By 1860 public sentiment throughout the North began to assume concrete form. It forced from unwilling lips defense of the truth. It crushed the wornout old Whig party and threw it into the political scrap-heap as a wreck. It split the slave-ruled party and shoved into the breach the virile, alert, wedge of the newly-born Republican party and when the memorable campaign of 1858 came on there was such a tremendous widespread activity as was never before witnessed on any continent. If it be true that 'coming events cast their shadows before,' then certainly the campaigns of 1858-60 clearly forecast the struggle that was to burst upon the country a year later. That summer and fall were given over to politics. Nothing else was discussed.

"The demonstration that greeted Lincoln on that occasion has, so far as I recall, never been equalled in the border line of the two states of Indiana and Illinois.

"The Clinton delegation started with a strong cavalcade of mounted young women and men. Others went in gayly decorated wagons and others in carriages. Like an avalanche, it swept on across the township, gathering to itself large delegations all along the way. At the same time, from all the country surrounding Paris other delegations were moving on toward a center and when Mr. Lincoln arose to speak he was greeted by a sea of eager faces that covered several acres, solidly standing. That procession is to this day the talk of the older men and women who remember it.

"The campaign of 1860 was a furious campaign. No secret ballot then. Every voter in Clinton township had to come to town to vote and election day participated in it to the last hour. The young, humane Democratic Republican party took the township and sent the word to Lincoln that so far as this river town was concerned it would stand for a united country. But our town paid a terrific price for its rejection of the tempter. And the debt is not paid yet. Little apparently do the people of today seem to realize the awful cost it has taken in times past to maintain liberty and guarantee progress.

"So it was that under such thrills and stress my earliest days swiftly passed. And one day father came home in a great hurry from up town. His face was pale and his voice trembled. Someone asked him, 'Why, Frank, what on earth is the matter?' 'Fort Sumter has been fired on,' he huskily replied, and on he went to spread the awful, ominous news. Just then another one came past and corroborated the news. It seems as though ill news of great importance spreads as if by magic. It was true in this case. All Clinton was on the streets in a few moments after the news of the Fort Sumter affair arrived. Excitement was at fever pitch. Church bells were rung, crowds were addressed by impromptu speakers, and the children caught the fever and could hardly be kept in school.

"The next thing we knew, President Lincoln had issued an appeal for seventy-five thousand men, and then the real seriousness of the crisis came rolling in with a rush to every home."

#### MARKET QUOTATIONS.

The question of high and low tariff has always been one of interest to the political parties of this country, and in 1910 the arguments put forth in favor of the higher tariff, and the denial that the tariff made higher cost of living, was put forth in the *Hoosier State*, published at Newport, this county, in the following list of articles, based on what ten bushels of wheat would have purchased in 1896, under low rates of tariff ("tariff for revenue only") and under the Republican rule and higher tariff of the administration of the last named political party. The list is as follows:

In 1896 ten bushels of wheat bought forty-seven pounds of coffee; in 1910 it bought one hundred and thirty-four pounds.

In 1896 ten bushels of wheat bought one hundred and twenty-three pounds of rice; in 1910 it bought two hundred and thirteen pounds.

In 1896 ten bushels of wheat bought nine barrels of salt; in 1910 it bought thirteen barrels.

In 1896 ten bushels of wheat bought one hundred and thirty-two pounds of granulated sugar; in 1910 it bought two hundred and forty-nine pounds.

In 1896 ten bushels of wheat bought twenty-five pounds of tea; in 1910 it bought forty-nine pounds.

In 1896 ten bushels of wheat bought one hundred and twenty-three yards of gingham; in 1910 it bought one hundred and sixty-nine yards.

In 1896 ten bushels of wheat bought two pairs of men's kip shoes and



left a balance of \$1.47; in 1910 it bought four pairs of the same kind of shoes and left a balance of \$1.81.

In 1896 ten bushels of wheat bought sixty-nine bushels of bituminous coal; in 1910 it bought one hundred and ten bushels of coal.

In 1896 ten bushels of wheat bought fifty-seven gallons of coal oil; in 1910 it bought one hundred and one gallons.

In 1896 ten bushels of wheat bought two hundred and ten pounds of nails; in 1910 it bought six hundred and forty-one pounds.

In 1896 the government was operating under the low tariff legislation of President Cleveland's administration; in 1910 the government was administered under the Payne-Aldrich tariff list of the Republican party administration, as established by the McKinley bill, and upon which issue President McKinley had been elected to office.

In the month of December, 1912, the following were the general prices at retail for the commodities named: Flour, \$3.00 per hundred; corn, per bushel, 55 cents; wheat, 97 cents; potatoes, 75 cents; coal, per ton, \$2.50; granulated sugar, per pound, 8 cents; coffee, from 25 to 30 cents; butter, 35 cents; eggs, per dozen, 35 cents; milk, 7 cents per quart; beans, \$3.75 per bushel; apples, \$2.90 per barrel; prints, per yard, 5 to 8 cents; sheeting, 8 to 12 cents per yard; wool, per pound, 12 cents; common nails, 2 1-2 cents by the keg; coal oil, 15 cents; gasoline, 20 cents; hogs were worth \$7.50 and western cattle, \$6.50 per hundred, live weight.

#### ORIGINAL VILLAGE PLATS.

The following is a list of the original village plats of Vermillion county, Indiana:

Clinton was platted in section 15, township 14, range 9 west, January 8, 1829, by Lewis P. Rodgers.

Cayuga (first known as Eugene Junction) was platted September 20, 1827, by S. S. Collett.

Dana, in section 26, township 16, range 10 west, by Samuel and J. B. Aikman, Samuel B. Kaufman, and H. B. Hammond, the date being August 18, 1874.

Alta was platted May 18, 1871, in Helt township, by John T. Panton, John D. Johnson, James McLaughlin.

Fairview Park was platted by Charles W. Whitcomb (trustee) on the southwest quarter of section 3, township 14, range 9, August 16, 1902.

West Clinton Junction, platted May 31, 1911, by H. M. Ferguson, Emanuel C. Stultz and Henry C. Dies.

Rangeville was platted September 16, 1911, on section 7, township 14, range 9 west, by the Clinton Coal Company.

Geneva was platted, at least recorded, December 28, 1900, by the Torrey Coal Company, in section 5, township 14, range 9 west.

Rhodes was platted on the southeast of section 33, township 14, range 9, by the Brazil Block Coal Company, December 11, 1903.

Needmore was platted as a sub-division, in section 34, township 14, range 9 west, on September 29, 1904, by the Indiana Fuel Company.

Centenary was platted in section 13, township 14, range 10 west, October 19, 1910, by Joseph W. Amis (trustee).

Chum's Ford was platted in sections 30 and 31, township 14, range 9 west, by U. G. Wright (trustee), December 8, 1910.

Universal was platted in the northeast quarter of section 31, township 14, range 9 west, March, 1911.

Perrysville was platted in section 34, township 19, range 9, and in section 33, of same township and range, May 25, 1832, by James Blair.

Gessie was platted in section 28, township 19, range 10 west, March 20, 1872, by R. J. Gessie.

Rileysburg was platted in the southwest quarter of section 17, township 19, range 10 west, June 4, 1904, by Sarah E. Peterson and Richard C. Peterson.

Newport was platted, or rather recorded as a village, July 28, 1828, and re-platted and corrected up for record, March 8, 1837, by S. S. Collett; located in section 26, township 17, range 9 west.

St. Bernice, platted in the northeast quarter of the southeast quarter of section 28, township 15, range 10 west, August 18, 1905, by Alfred M. and Elizabeth J. Reed.

Summit Grove, platted on sections 22 and 23, township 15, range 9 west, November 16, 1871, by Abraham H. Puy.

Hillsdale was platted in section 2, township 15, range 9 west, November 11, 1872, by Everlin Montgomery and Benjamin F. Maston.

Highland was platted in section 27, township 16, range 9 west, and the northeast quarter of the northwest quarter of section 34, same township and range, September 20, 1835, by Michael Gohmly.

Jones was platted in Helt township, in section 34, township 15, range 10 west, by Phillip Jones, on February 25, 1862.

Springfield was platted, or recorded as a village plat, October 1, 1828, by James Burns.

Solon was platted April 2, 1836, on the east half of the northwest quarter of section 23, township 17, range 9 west.

Transylvania, platted in section 34, township 15, range 9 west, May 9, 1837, by A. E. Sergent and G. Powers.

Sheperdstown, platted by John Villarson, in the northeast quarter of section 7, township 19, range 10 west, and in section 6, same town and range, August 10, 1836.

#### CEMETERIES OF THE COUNTY.

Clinton cemetery, platted in section 10, township 14, range 9, by five trustees, December 22, 1890.

Toronto cemetery, by five trustees, F. V. Austin, W. F. Kerns, M. Puffer, S. Jenks and Samuel Malone, November 26, 1893; location, section 11, township 15, range 10 west.

Other cemeteries platted and recorded are the Vermillion cemetery and the Thomas cemetery.

Eugene cemetery, platted by trustees, L. T. Naylor, G. H. Fable, M. G. Hosford, June 11, 1891, in section 31, township 18, range 9 west.

Bales cemetery, platted by trustees, May 1, 1894, in section 36, township 16, range 10 west.

Hopewell Friends cemetery.

#### POPULATION OF THE COUNTY.

In 1880, according to the United States census reports, Vermillion county had inhabitants as follows:

Clinton township and towns, 3,000; Helt township and towns, 3,027; Vermillion township and towns, 2,215; Eugene township and towns, 1,340; Highland township and towns, 2,433; total in county, 12,015.

#### PRESENT POPULATION.

The last federal census gives Vermillion county a population of 18,865, divided among the townships and towns and cities as follows, that of 1900 being also noted:

	1900.	1910.
Clinton township and city .....	5,193	9,341
City alone .....	2,918	6,289
Fairview Park .....	—	680
Eugene township and Cayuga.....	2,038	2,112
Cayuga town .....	832	911
Helt township and Dana .....	3,799	3,543
Highland township .....	2,133	1,845
Vermillion township and Newport .....	2,089	1,974
Newport alone .....	610	732

The total population of this county in 1870 was 10,840; in 1880 it had 12,015; in 1899 it had 13,154; in 1900 it had 15,252; in 1910 it had 18,865.

In 1910 there were seventy-four persons to each square mile, in this county. The rural population was fifty to the square mile.

The white population was 18,740 and the negro population 121. Native white population, 14,466; foreign-born white population included these: From Austria, 342; Germany, 178; Hungary, 230; Italy, 811; Russia, 210; Scotland, 179; Ireland, 22.

The county was divided as to sex: 10,002 males, 8,863 females.

The total of illiteracy was 300; per cent. of illiteracy, five and two-tenths per cent. of population.

Total between six and twenty years of age 5,423; school attendance, 3,614; number of dwellings, 4,347; number of families, 4,544.

The city of Clinton had, in 1900, 2,918 population; in 1910, it had 6,229; 33 negroes; illiterate, 200; of school age, 1,602; attending school, 1,095; dwellings in city, 1,301; families in city, 1,468.

#### COUNTY SOCIETIES.

Besides the County Medical Society mentioned elsewhere, this county had other important societies which, with the death and removal of their founders, went down. These included the Western Indiana Scientific Association, founded by the spirit and activity of that well-known man of Newport, William Gibson, and later of Perrysville, who, in the summer of 1875, issued a call to his friends in science with a view of organizing a society. The first meeting met in August that year and such men attended and took part as Prof. B. Rhoades, William Gibson, M. L. Hall, William L. Little, Jesse Houchin, P. Z. Anderson and Samuel Groenendyke. At their next meeting



they organized what they were pleased to style "The Western Indiana Historical and Scientific Association." They adopted a constitution and by-laws for the purpose of "promoting discovery in geology, archaeology and other kindred sciences; for our mutual improvement therein, and for the securing of a cabinet of natural history and a collection of minerals and fossils as will illustrate the resources and wealth of Vermilion county." The constitution was signed by John Collett, William L. Little, William Gibson, H. H. Conley, M. L. Hall, S. B. Davis, M. G. Rhoades, Jesse Houchin, W. C. Eichelberger, Samuel Groenendyke, B. E. Rhoades and P. Z. Anderson. Mr. Collett was elected president; M. G. Rhoades, vice-president; William L. Little, treasurer; H. H. Conley, corresponding secretary; M. L. Hall, recording secretary, and William Gibson, librarian and curator.

With the removal of Mr. Gibson the moving, active spirit, after he had succeeded in securing many items for the collection and had them carefully stored away in a neat, small building, the association ceased to exist, as is to be regretted by all thinking people of the county.

#### COUNTY TEMPERANCE ORGANIZATION.

A county temperance organization was formed as a result of the "blue-ribbon" movement, February 16, 1882, at Newport. The meeting was called to order by Capt. R. B. Sears, of Newport, a member of the state organization. Dr. E. T. Spotswood, of Perrysville, was temporary chairman, and E. H. Hayes, of Clinton, secretary. Vice-presidents were chosen from each of the five townships in Vermillion county. Mrs. Emma Molloy, a noted temperance lecturer, was invited to make a canvass of the county. The constitution of the Grand Council was adopted. Resolutions called for none but out-and-out temperance men for the officers of the society. They must also favor adopting resolutions to vote for a prohibitory liquor law in Indiana. It is thought, by some, that owing to its not being a religious or secret order, that it went down before much good was accomplished.

#### VERMILLION COUNTY POSTOFFICES.

The facilities for receiving and sending mail matter in this county have greatly changed for the better with the passing of the decades since one man's hat was the postoffice and mail was received "when convenient" from Danville and Terre Haute, at two or three places within the county. The establishment of the free rural delivery of mails in the late eighties and nineties

brought many changes in the location of postoffices throughout the entire country, including this county. In 1888 the offices in Vermillion county were listed as follows:

Clinton; St. Bernice, at Jonestown, in the northwestern portion of Clinton township; Summit Grove, on the Chicago & Eastern Illinois railroad, in Helt township; Toronto, at or near Bono, Helt township, at the crossing of the two railroads of the county; Dana, in the northwestern part of Helt township, on the railroad running east and west through the county; Newport, the county seat; Quaker Hill, sometimes called "Quaker Point," eight miles west of Newport and in Vermillion township; Cayuga, in Eugene township, at the railroad crossings; Eugene; Perrysville; Gessie, on the railroad in the western portion of Highland township; Rileysburg, on the same road two miles to the northwest of Gessie; Walnut Grove, Brown-ton, Highland, Alta, Opeedee were all hamlets and cross-roads, but had no post-offices.

The following is a true list of the postoffices in the county in 1912: Cayuga, Charles Hosford, postmaster; Clinton, J. O. Stark, postmaster; Dana, Roy Turner, postmaster; Eugene; Gessie; Hillsdale, Margaret McCarty, postmistress; Newport, M. B. Carter, postmaster; Perrysville, Inskie; Rileysburg; St. Bernice, Ed. McCann, postmaster; New St. Bernice (a rural station); Universal, John Marietta, postmaster.

The postal savings department was introduced in Vermillion county in 1911, and in January, 1913, the parcel post system was installed in the county. All of these facilities give the persons residing distant from the towns and villages almost an equal advantage enjoyed by the town dwellers of years ago. The farmer has his daily newspaper, with latest market reports and the important news of the entire world, brought to his door each forenoon. And if in need of some small article of merchandise, instead of going to town he can simply phone to his dealer and the mail carrier brings the article on his first trip out, the charges being merely nominal. Verily, the farmer is becoming more independent each year, and has of late just awakened to the fact that he is a potent political factor that must be reckoned with.

#### POWDER MILL EXPLOSION.

May 4, 1904, at noon, the powder mill at Dorner, two miles southeast of Newport, was blown up, four men being killed and many more injured. The scene of the disaster was in a little hollow leading off from the main hollow which runs east and west. There were at the time four hundred kegs

of powder, of twenty-five pounds weight each, amounting to ten thousand pounds of damp blasting powder. Henry Griffin and DeSoto Biggs, two of the unlucky workmen, were blown literally to atoms. The combined weight of the two men was about three hundred pounds and only sixty pounds of scattered fragments of human remains could ever be gathered together. The other two killed were George and Berkley Mayhew, brothers. The woods caught fire from the terrible explosion and it took much hard fighting upon the part of the men present to extinguish the flames before they reached the other side of the hill, where there was stored two hundred and fifty thousand pounds of powder in the magazines of the Dupont powder works. Only two of the fourteen buildings were destroyed. They were never rebuilt. An almost endless litigation ensued for damages upon the part of the deceased men's friends, some of whom compromised and received small amounts from the company. The explosion was heard at Terre Haute and Clinton. John Potts, who was on his father's farm a mile distant, was knocked down by the explosion. Twenty window lights were broken from the county poor asylum; pieces of shafting of six hundred pounds weight were hurled a half mile distant and planted in the earth. A spring never before observed by man was started from out the hill at the glaze; twenty-five copperhead snakes that had not yet come forth from their winter quarters were stunned and afterward killed by the men who were searching for the bodies of the unfortunate workmen.

#### DESTRUCTION BY DYNAMITERS.

Clinton and vicinity has been the scene of terrible dynamiter's work, including the blowing up of the Catholic church and, a few months later, the partial destruction of the piers of the Chicago & Eastern Illinois railroad bridge, at Clinton. The latter explosion was on April 19, 1910, when two explosions occurred. The shock was felt at Dana, Hillsdale and Terre Haute. The guilty ones were never captured, although there were large rewards offered and expert detectives put into the case. The city offered one thousand dollars and the railroad company three thousand dollars. Bloodhounds were put into service, but all to no purpose.

The partial destruction of the beautiful and massive Roman Catholic church at Clinton, supposed to have been the work of someone not satisfied with the requirements and exactments upon the part of the priest in charge of the Clinton parish at the time, occurred in November, 1909, of which the *Clinton Saturday Argus* had this to say, editorially:

"The new Sacred Heart Roman Catholic church was partially wrecked at 11:45 Tuesday night by the explosion of three sticks of dynamite. The explosions were so terrific that almost the entire windows were blown out of many of the houses in that part of the city. A police force was at once sent for by 'calls' and the night officers responded, but no trace could be found that afforded any clue to the deed.

"The damage done will amount to over one thousand dollars, on which there is no insurance. Wednesday the city council met and voted to offer a thousand dollars reward for the arrest and conviction of the miscreants. Seventy-nine sticks of dynamite were found at the church on Wednesday morning, which had they gone off would have destroyed at least the southern half of the city. A call has been made for a Pinkerton detective and no pains or expense will be spared to bring the guilty parties to justice."

The same local paper said on December 3, 1909:

"The deadly effects of the recent attempt to blow up the Catholic church in this city are far more wide-reaching than the mere damage to the building, serious as it was. Owners of property in that vicinity now live in constant dread and apprehension of still further disaster. Some families have rented rooms down town where they can have the benefit of police protection, day and night; others refuse to sleep at home at night time. Others are offering their property for sale. The Catholic authorities have employed guards for constant night protection. Father Maher has, it is reported, removed from the city and his former duties have been taken by another priest."

Up to this writing, December, 1912, there has been no clue to the persons who performed this dastardly deed.

#### A BRUTAL OUTRAGE.

During the latter part of the night of October 12, 1883, says the *Hoosier State*, published at Newport, a most brutal outrage was committed by a band of robbers upon Elias Lamb and their family at their residence, near Newport. In the house were Mr. Lamb and wife and a married daughter, from Wayne county, visiting them. Between three and four o'clock the dog made considerable noise. Mrs. Lamb went to the window to see what was the matter and hissed the dog, which would only plunge out into the darkness and then retreat. Not discovering anything, she returned to bed, but the dog kept up a howling and acted as if someone was encroaching on the premises. In a few minutes Mr. Lamb went out to see if he could discover anything



wrong. Returning to his room, he had scarcely lain down when the door to an adjoining room against which stood a large bureau was burst open and the bureau fell to the floor, with a terrible crash, breaking everything that was upon it. Before the two could get out of bed they were seized by two burglars and a demand made for their money. Mr. Lamb gave them all he had. The demand being repeated to his wife, she said she had a dollar and seventy-five cents upstairs. The villains made her get it without a light, at the risk of her life. They then declared that there was more money in the house and that they would kill them if they did not give it up. Mr. Lamb answered that they might kill them, but that they could not get any more money, for there was no more in the house. Then they assaulted him and threatened to kill them both if they did not pay over more money. They first pummeled him awhile and then fired two shots, one of them grazing Mrs. Lamb's head, splitting open her ear. Mr. Lamb, although badly bruised and one eye closed, managed to get out of doors, where he pulled the bell rope, which frightened the burglars away.

The daughter referred to, who was sleeping in another room, crawled under the feather bed and thus escaped discovery. Their son John, who was sleeping in a house some hundred yards distant, upon hearing the bell ran over to his parents' house and, finding they were suffering for medical treatment, proposed to go immediately for a physician, but they, fearing the rascals might return and do further mischief, begged him to remain with them till daylight.

During the morning the tracks of the robbers were traced both ways, between their house and town, but no further clue was ever obtained.

#### VERMILLION COUNTY IN MOURNING.

The following will serve the purpose of showing how the deaths of Lincoln, Garfield and McKinley were taken by the citizens of this county:

#### LINCOLN'S ASSASSINATION.

In common with the entire nation, the news of the death at the hand of an assassin of President Abraham Lincoln, just at the close of the civil conflict in which he was the true patriot and hero, was received with profound grief and sorrow by this people, who had faithfully supported the great man in his every effort to save the Union. The public meetings were sad ones throughout the county. Men met on the streets, in the shops, on the farms

and at cross-road postoffices, only to see depicted in one another's faces the sorrow hidden within their hearts. Stunned and silent at first, they soon gave utterance to the bitterness of their souls. A saved Union, but a lamented and assassinated President. Flags were at half-mast; emblems of mourning were seen on every hand, and many a prayer went up to the Ruler of Nations that peace might come out of the confusion that existed on every hand. It was the first great national sorrow this people had experienced. They had freely given up their brave sons, on many a well fought field of battle, in defense of the flag, but never had they mourned a President in such critical days as those of April, 1865.

#### DEATH OF PRESIDENT GARFIELD.

Again, sixteen years later, in July, 1881, the cowardly hand of an "un-balanced man," with political hatred in his heart, shot down President James Abram Garfield, at the Potomac depot in Washington, D. C. He suffered on, and was the object of a nation's sincere prayers, until death claimed him, September 20th, that year.

The *Hoosier State*, published then, as now, at Newport, Vermillion county, had the following editorial on the death of Garfield: "Today the whole nation mourns over the death of our President, which occurred at ten thirty-five last Monday night. Eleven weeks ago Guiteau shot him down at the Potomac depot in Washington, while on his way to visit his wife who was ill in an Eastern city. Although a stout, hearty man, usually weighing two hundred pounds, he had dwindled down to less than one hundred and fifteen pounds. The prayers of the whole nation went up for him, but availed nothing. Death was sealed upon his manly brow when he was first shot, and no mortal could stay its onward march. The people feel sad and fully appreciate the fearful calamity which has befallen our country.

"Yesterday a large number of business houses and residences were heavily draped in mourning. It seemed like a pall of despair had spread over our quiet little village and the deep gloom of sadness could be plainly depicted on the countenances of everyone. He is gone. Let the old warrior rest! Let our people hone for the best.

"Memorial Exercises—In honor of the dead President, a public meeting was called at the court house in Newport by Marshal F. M. Bishop, on Sunday evening, to plan for a memorial meeting there on Monday. At two p. m. Monday the court house was full; business men all closed their places up and

attended in reverence and sorrow. Prayer was offered by Rev. J. H. Hollingsworth. William L. Little made an appropriate address, highly complimenting the dead chieftain. C. W. Ward delivered a lengthy address, full of many beautiful sentiments. Capt. B. B. Sears followed with another address, as did also Henry Hollingsworth."

#### DEATH OF PRESIDENT M'KINLEY.

For the third time the citizens of Vermillion county were called upon to mourn the death of an assassinated President. Perhaps no better index to the sentiment concerning this dastardly assassination can be had than to reprint a portion of an editorial that appeared in the Democratic organ at Clinton, the *Saturday Argus*, published by L. O. Bishop, which reads as follows:

"This morning (September 20, 1901,) the people of this nation awoke to a great sorrow and shame. Sorrow over the death of William McKinley, who had been twice elected to occupy the chair of the highest office in the land, a kind, sincere and true gentleman and a high public official. Shame at the consciousness that, in spite of all boasted liberty and justice and prosperity that were said to abound, out of all should come one whose life had been so embittered at the wrongs he saw that he dared to lift his hand against the head of the republic.

"In this hour of national affliction, when the future rises full of potent hopes, and the hearts of all true Americans are heavy with sorrow and apprehension, there should be no partisanship, no strife, nothing but the truest comradeship, for the blow that has fallen from the hand of the barbarian and assassin is a blow, not at William McKinley the man, but a blow by savagery at citizenship; by chaos, at law and order. At this moment, when the destinies of the nation may be changing, there can be but one sentiment in all our hearts—profound sympathy for the one weak woman on whose frail shoulders has fallen this crushing blow."

In Clinton, memorial services were held at the Methodist Episcopal church, at which numerous prominent citizens addressed a large audience, upon whose every face were depicted the lines of grief and true sorrow, regardless of party lines. All were McKinley's friends, in a true personal sense, for he was of that type of manhood that ever has the good will of the common people, in whose interests he always believed he was working while he held public office, either state or national. The occasion of this memorial service will never be forgotten by those present, among whom were those

who had been called upon to mourn the death of two Presidents assassinated before, Lincoln and Garfield, but to some this seemed the saddest of all, for it was in a time of supreme peace and prosperity in the country.

#### POVERTY AND HAPPINESS.

In a series of interesting articles from the pen of Editor L. O. Bishop, in the *Saturday Argus*, of Clinton, in 1911, the following should be preserved as a part of the history of Vermillion county, showing as it does much of interest concerning the days back a half century ago. While many of our readers will not quite agree with the political philosophy of the writer, all will be pleased at the facts herein narrated:

"In one of James Whitcomb Riley's poems, Indiana's gifted poet reflects more than superficial sentiment when he exclaims: 'Take me back to Griggsby Station, where we used to be so happy and so poor.' That was the condition of things that prevailed in Clinton half a century ago.

"The Civil war contributed to this poverty in that it drew out of the country for destruction not only vast supplies in way of foodstuffs, wool for clothing, live stock, horses and mules, but it also drew into this fierce maelstrom of destruction all the able-bodied producers of wealth from town and country. It put a stop to all exchange, because prices of everything went skyward and wages were reduced to a minimum, because no plans were formulated for any public or private improvement that would circulate money or employ labor.

"So we were all poor in Clinton in 1861-65. We were poor in material things because there are things today in common use that had not been invented. For instance, there was the item of artificial light. No longer than fifty years back we had not even coal oil lamps. Artificial lights for stores, churches and homes were made in two ways. Candles were used in chandeliers and candlesticks. And considerable artistic taste was displayed in making the chandeliers and candlesticks. And then our mothers took great pride in seeing how smooth a candle they could make by pouring melted tallow down the mold frame through which the wick had been strung. Others used an open lamp, filled with oil of any inflammable kind and the wick hung over the edge of the lamp, or it might run up a spout and be lighted. James Payne informs me that coal oil did not come into use here until about 1864, when 'Esquire Harrison invested in a coal oil lamp and took it to his country home, a few miles west of the city. It was a venomous looking creature,



with no chimney, and double-barreled at that! It created more curiosity among the neighbors than a flying machine does today. People would drive miles and miles and make it a point to have business at the Squire's to see that 'new fangled contraption' with which the family was going to cut some spurge at night. But there was not one in the house who would go up close to the lamp to light it. And it was used as an ornament until finally someone did screw up courage to fire the tip ends of the two little wicks that seemed to run like a fuse to a mine below.

"The experiment worked ail right. At least it did not blow up and that oil lamp soon developed into a better affair and candles and grease lights, with their snuffers, smoke, grime and dirt, were soon relegated to oblivion. In the matter of producing a perfect artificial light the whole world hung on for centuries to the crudest of affairs and seemed never to think it possible to invent anything better. As a matter of fact, the world has made more progress in way of comfort, convenience and cleanliness and in labor-saving devices in the past fifty years than it did in all the centuries that had gone before.

"Even as late as 1868 the wheat crop was cut by hand. And not until the White Brothers, Orville, Ren, Florence and James, always progressive farmers, ventured to invest in a Walter A. Wood binder, and the Knowles Brothers, Charles B. and James E., tried the McCormick, that the farmers could be induced to get away from the back-breaking, slavish task of harvesting by hand. These machines were crude, heavy affairs, costing from three hundred and thirty-five dollars to three hundred and seventy-five dollars, respectively, and required from three to four horses to draw them when in the field, and were easily disarranged. Then Scott Haginbaugh, an agricultural implement dealer, took the agency and began to exploit their many virtues. The machine used was to bind the wheat by means of wire bands, which were cut by a hatchet in threshing. One day a farmer asked Scott what became of this wire. Scott, being equal to all emergencies, very coolly and promptly replied that 'It evaporated.' The explanation seemed to be satisfactory, as a number of machines were sold. But the law of evolution was constantly at work, eliminating the old and useless and substituting the new and better ways of doing things.

"The richest man in Clinton at the beginning of the Civil war was probably worth ten thousand dollars, mostly in merchandise, a residence and some farm land. One family, that of George McCullough, had a piano and

they had a spick span parlor in the old 'White House' that now stands on South Main street.

John Payton was a successful merchant and later on furnished his family with a piano; John Whitecomb, another merchant, purchased a piano. But outside of these three families, the evidences of wealth and luxury in Clinton were far between.

"We were all poor in Clinton in the early sixties, and that poverty was no more like the poverty that infests our cities today than German silver is like the genuine article. The poverty of 1864 was not poverty that came to men by reason of unjust laws or of vicious systems. It was the poverty of a natural condition of things; wealth was not. It was a poverty that made all men feel socially equal, and they were on good terms with each other. There was no embarrassment on the part of either if a poor washwoman went to divine service attired in calico and sat down beside a woman in all wool or silk; all was well. I have seen the mechanic sit in his shirt sleeves by the side of the merchant in alpaca coat, and both sing the same hymns of praise and gratitude from the same book, and both kneel in the same pew and pray to the same Heavenly Father for his guidance and mercy, and all classes would join in fraternal spirit at the same hospitable table. The poverty of 1861-65 did not imbrute men by closing against them and their children all the natural opportunities for advancement. It did not divide society into two great hostile camps that we see about us today, the fortunate on one side and the outcast on the other. The poor man was not shoved off the earth by some cold, unfeeling corporation, aided by political prostitutes and professional parasites. The one great universal, underlying cause of the happiness that prevailed in 1861 was the fact that every man was practically free to use the land and reap all proceeds of his labor. It was this that gave strength to the North. It was the denial of this principle that made the South weak, and which finally led to its defeat and wiping out of its long cherished system, slavery."

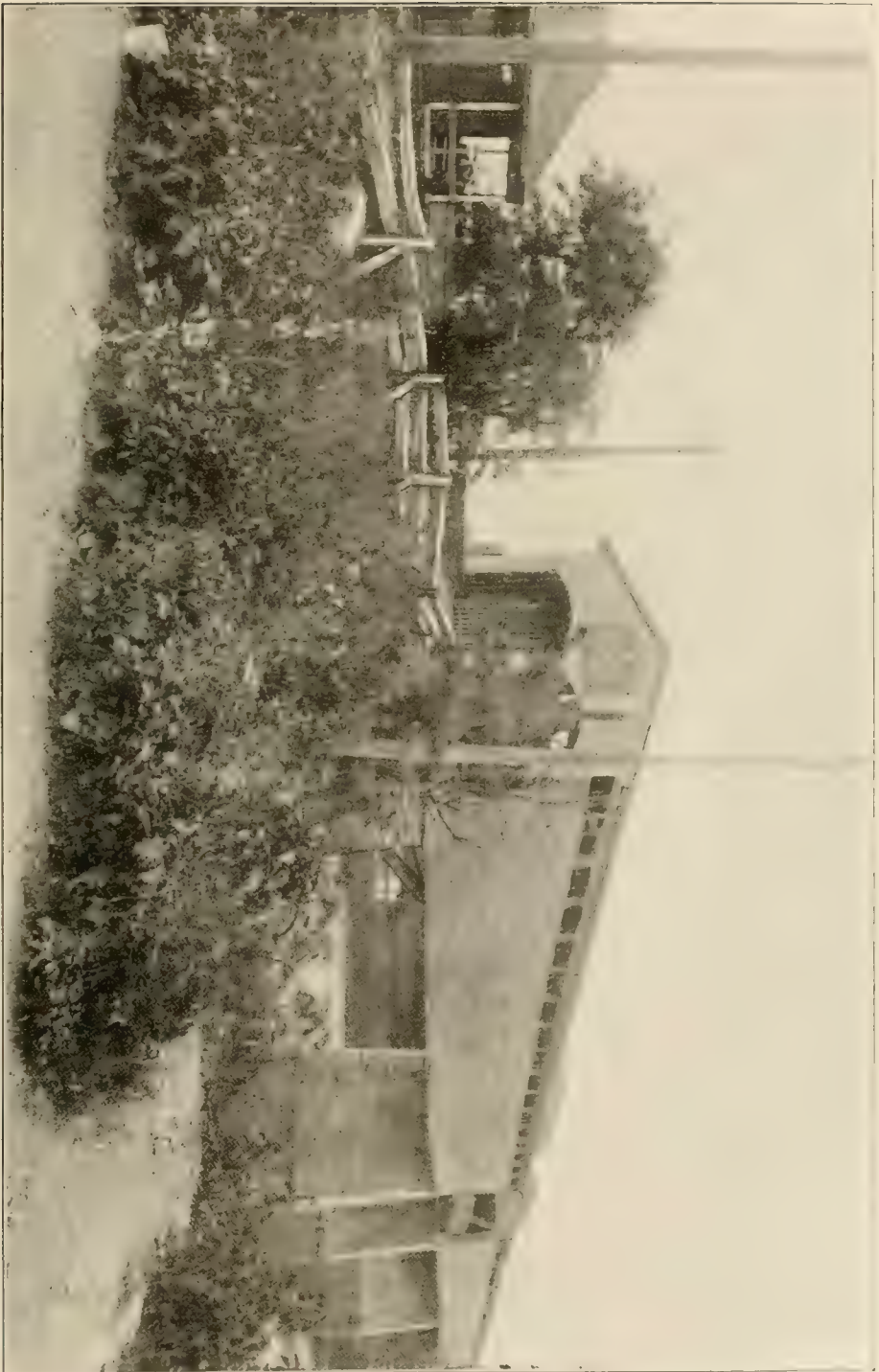
## CHAPTER XVIII.

### CITY OF CLINTON.

Clinton, named in honor of an early governor of New York, DeWitt Clinton, was laid out, probably, by William Harris, a resident of Martin county, Indiana, in 1824. Martin was a government surveyor. But the record of town and village plats at Newport shows that Clinton was platted and recorded by Lewis P. Rodgers, on January 8, 1829—probably a corrected and legal platting recorded of the original town. It is situated (the original plat) in section 15, township 15, range 9 west.

At first the growth of the town was very slow, indeed at the opening of the Civil war it only contained about two hundred and fifty inhabitants, but in 1868, when a railroad was an assured fact, it took on new life and vigor. But before railroad days it was the center of an agricultural district around it for a radius of fifty miles or more. Across the Wabash the people traded mostly at Terre Haute, fifteen miles distant from Clinton and always an absorbing factor in the country trade. Clinton stands on a level plateau of land extending from the western bank of the Wabash back nearly a mile to the hills, in which the great coal deposits are, which have for years been successfully worked. The population of Clinton, according to the 1910 United States census, was 6,289, but according to the 1912 city directory, carefully compiled, the city now has a population of 8,379. Aside from the mining element, the population is largely American. The commercial interests may be listed as between the extensive coal mining industry and the agricultural trade, with a considerable amount of money also put into circulation by reason of the vast brick and tile industries of the community, the paving brick alone being a large industry. But beyond question, the city thrives largely on its mining interests which are increasing yearly.

The transportation facilities are provided largely through the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad and the Terre Haute, Indianapolis & Eastern Traction Company.



THE OLD WAGON BRIDGE, CLINTON, IND., ERECTED 1852. REMOVED 1899





## THE BEGINNINGS.

The first mercantile establishment in Clinton was opened by John and Benjamin R. Whitcomb, who kept a small general store. Other early business men were John Payton, John R. Whitcomb, H. B. Cole, John Ferrel and John Marks. Later business men were James McCulloch, Otis M. Conkey, Jones & Chestnut, from Paris, Illinois, Leander Munsel, from the same place, Manson Baldwin, of Baldwinville, Illinois, who were extensive pork packers at Clinton. This city was for many years a noted pork market and shipping point for packed pork.

Lesser business was carried on by J. W. and Fielding Shepard, and Volney Hutchison, mechanics, who afterward moved into the country and became successful farmers; S. E. Patton, a cooper; H. F. Redding, carriage-maker and blacksmith, and others.

Many of the buildings occupied by these pioneers were still standing in the nineties, on the bank of the river, near the railroad bridge, where the old boat landing was, as monumental relics of that long-ago steamboat period. The scenes of the past ever and anon rise in the vision and memory of the older citizens of Clinton, who seem again to hear the shrill whistle of the steamer and the wharf-talk of river boatmen and roustabouts, as they loaded and unloaded the great cargoes of merchandise to and from the boats bound north and south from this landing place.

The population had not reached over one thousand eight hundred in 1890, but modern development, the growing industries, and general trend of the times of peace and real prosperity, will not long permit a city located as is Clinton to stand still, hence its present size and business enterprise.

## EFFECTS OF CIVIL WAR.

At the close of the Civil war there was a complete change in commercial and industrial life. It can only be compared in physical nature to an upheaval that obliterates old paths, landmarks and structures. Prior to the Civil war Clinton and the surrounding country had many industries. It was the era of the small industry under individual control. Such towns as Perysville, Eugene, Mecca, Clinton and many others were centers of this kind of industry. In Clinton we had a wagon factory conducted by B. F. Morey, father of W. L. Morey. In that shop wagons were made complete, from end-gate to the tongue. And they were good wagons, too. They were like Holmes' wonderful "One-Hoss Shay," "that ran a hundred years to a day."

They were like the characters of the men who built them—strong, close built and enduring. In connection with this wagon factory was the blacksmith shop, where the iron work was made, the paint shop where they were painted.

Today these wagon factories have all been brushed away by the big factories, owned and controlled by corporations backed by millions of dollars. We had a tan yard at the foot of Crompton hill, where an old man, named John Crompton, tanned hides and prepared them for the boot and shoe factory, conducted by John E. Ryan, on South Main street. Between these two, we used to get boots and shoes made, pretty high priced 'tis true, but built like the garments of the children of Israel for wear.

There was Harry Redding's famous copper shop, where barrels and casks were made. There were the great pork-packing industries. There was Robert Chambers' cabinet shop, where furniture was made. There was Greenwat's blacksmith shop, where horseshoes were made, and Wiley's place, where cradles, bedsteads and coffins were made to order. There was the Mallory mill, where cane was ground and the juice was converted into sorghum molasses, which our mothers used in making ginger cake about three inches thick, as big as the oven would take in, and which was comparable only to the food of the gods. And there were saw-mills and shingle-mills and grist-mills all over this country. At Mecca, a woolen-mill used up the raw wool that was raised on the backs of sheep that roamed the hills of Parke and Vermillion counties. It was a Mecca indeed, for to it the mothers for miles around made their annual pilgrimages every fall, to lay in a supply of good woolen clothes for use in the family during the following winter. The motive power of this woolen-mill was water that had been accumulated by placing a dam across the Big Raccoon. Perrysville was a thriving, humming town and easily the best town in this county, doing an immense business in manufacturing and merchandising.

West of Clinton was the Indiana Iron Furnace, which employed a host of men, scattered a large pay-roll throughout the township, and which used up the iron ore found everywhere in the beds of the creeks. In fact, the people were so self-dependent that they could practically get along for long periods without any outside aid. And yet all these industries were paralyzed and forever silenced by the after-results of the war. The fires died out of the smelting furnace, the boats came no more for their usual cargoes.

At this time Main street was only a second-rate affair. All the business was done along First street. The river bank was built up almost solidly in wood yards, coal yards, grain elevators, great warehouses, pork-packing

houses, stores, etc. It was river commerce. I have seldom ever gone over into Illinois that I do not meet some old farmer who, half a century ago, brought his grain and pork to Clinton to be shipped off south in payment for the product of slave labor. There was no outlet for all this surplus product. There was no place to ship it and no way of getting it on to the markets of the world. And the industries, in and about Clinton, wilted at the blast of war as a sensitive plant will wilt in the hand. The men left the furnace to go to the front. Although they were all Democrats, they were all loyal to their country. The fires went out, never to light the midnight skies again. And today the place is almost a tradition. The flouring mill of William Hedges closed down, to never again turn a wheel and was later taken down, brought to town and rebuilt and burned in March, 1891. The pork-packing houses all closed down, never to re-open. The coal and wood yards and river traffic all fell into decay. The grain traffic alone held on until in the seventies, when the railroad came to its relief. Boys used to climb up into the warehouses and over the huge timbers to chase the bats and owls out from their hiding places. (The above picture of Clinton and neighborhood was published in the *Argus* by L. O. Bishop and is doubtless true to life forty and fifty years ago.)

#### INDUSTRIES OF CLINTON, 1912.

Among the leading industries of the city of Clinton may be here cited the Clinton Paving Brick Company, which was established in 1893, with a capital of fifty thousand dollars; M. L. Morey, president; H. C. Dies, treasurer; J. W. Robb, secretary and manager; B. H. Morgan and M. C. Wright, directors. The first output of this extensive plant was in August, 1893, the capacity being forty thousand brick per day. The specialty is paving brick of a very superior quality. The company own sixty-five acres of land, and thus produce their own raw material. They employ about sixty-five workmen, and run the year round. The output is nearly all sold in the great Middle West. The clay this company owns will furnish all that is needed for many years to come. It is one of the most extensive plants in this section of Indiana, and is the largest of any, save that at Veedersburg alone, which is the greatest in Indiana.

This has come to be almost a clay and cement age, and as timber becomes scarcer, the construction of almost all kinds of structures will be accomplished by the use of brick and cement materials. For street paving there is nothing now known so excellent as the proper grades of paving brick, and in this Clinton excels. For this reason the city is indeed fortunate



in having this modern plant situated within her limits, furnishing employment for so large a number of men.

Other industries include the overall and skirt factory, in the south part of the city, which employs about seventy-five persons, mostly women; the Clinton Canning Factory, which institution puts up large quantities of vegetables; the ice company, making artificial ice of a splendid quality; the machine shops of Hays & Balmer and that of R. P. Shattuk; the hard-wood saw mills, located in the central eastern portion of the city, near the Wabash river front, the property of Butcher & Cooper.

Of the greater industry, that of coal mining operations, the chapter on Mining will treat.

The milling interests are well represented by the Clinton Milling Company, whose large plant is situated in the heart of the city, near the river front, where a fine grade of flour, meal, graham and feed is produced.

#### THE POSTOFFICE.

Clinton has the most important postal business of any postoffice within the county. It is the only second-class office and is now looking forward with great anticipation to the time when it will become a free delivery office, the population of the city long since having passed the limit for such a change. There are four rural routes extending out from this office to the outlying country, and the parcel post is now installed and in active operation. Again, it is promised that the coming session of Congress will appropriate for a postoffice building not less than sixty-five thousand dollars.

There being a very large foreign element in and near the city, this has long been a good paying money order center, especially in foreign orders. The postal savings department of the office was established in October, 1911, and on December 13, 1912, the books showed an amount of \$14,604 on deposit. The other business of the office, aside from money orders, amounted to \$11,795, in the last fiscal year.

The postmasters of Clinton have included the following: The first was Dave Patton; then, commencing with James McCollough, who served from 1856 to 1860, the postmasters have been John A. Campbell, 1860-65; John Payton, 1865-69; John G. Campbell, 1869-72; Thomas H. Allen, 1873-77; John F. Leighton, 1877-85; George W. Edwards, 1885-89; Marietta Blythe, 1889-93; L. O. Bishop, 1893-97; W. H. Bonner, 1897-01; J. N. Foist, 1901-10; John O. Stark, 1910-14.

CHURCHES AND LODGES.

Clinton has the following churches and lodges:

Roman Catholic, Sacred Heart, No. 548 Nebeker street.

Christian, northeast corner Blackman and South Seventh streets.

Finlanders Lutheran, No. 326 North Eighth street.

Methodist Episcopal, Blackman and South Fourth.

African Methodist Episcopal, Fifth and South Main streets.

Presbyterian, northwest corner South Third and Mulberry streets.

First Italian Presbyterian, North Eighth and Oak streets.

**United Brethren**, No. 910 South Main street.

Fraternal Order of Eagles.

Columbian Federation Societies.

Grand Army of the Republic, P. R. Owen Post No. 329.

Knights of Pythias, Hazel Lodge No. 217; Victor Lodge No. 553; Uniform Rank No. 105; Pythian Sisters.

United Mine Workers of America, in which all the fifteen mines about the city are represented.

Masonic, Jerusalem Lodge No. 99; Royal Arch Masons, Chapter No. 125; Knights Templar, Commandery No. 48; Order of Eastern Star, Chapter No. 254.

Modern Woodmen of America, Camp No. 3105.

Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Unity Lodge No. 827; Clinton Encampment No. 143; Vermillion Rebekah Lodge No. 82.

Owls, Lodge No. 1199.

Improved Order of Red Men, Waukeena Tribe No. 175.

MUNICIPAL HISTORY.

Clinton was incorporated about 1848-49, by special act of the Legislature, which empowered the trustees to prohibit the sale of intoxicating liquors. In about 1879 the place was incorporated under the general laws of the state, and was divided into five wards, from each of which there was elected one trustee, the term of office being for two years. The president was elected by the board and the members by the people. The records of the place have not been preserved complete, but such as have been kept intact show that the officers between 1880 and 1887 were as follows: Presidents—Neil J. McDougall, 1880-84; Decatur Downing, 1885; W. L. Morey, 1886-87. Clerks—D. C. Johnson, 1880; L. O. Bishop, 1881; Decatur Down-

ing, 1882; J. M. Hays, 1883-84; Ed. H. Johnson, 1885-87. Other officers to the present have been as follows: The city was made a fifth-class city in 1895 and the mayors have been William G. Merrill, 1895; N. C. Anderson, 1896-98; C. M. White, 1898-02; D. C. Johnson, 1902-06; C. E. Lowery, 1906-10; H. M. Ferguson, 1910-11; M. M. Scott, 1911; M. J. Tucker, 1911 and present incumbent. Mayor Ferguson resigned October 16, 1911, and was followed by Scott, who resigned November 20, 1911.

The city officials in 1912 are: Mayor, Morgan J. Tucker; clerk, T. L. McDonald; treasurer, Arthur B. Roberts; attorney, John A. Wiltermood; board of health, Drs. W. D. Gerrish, C. W. Ashley, Ivan Scott; aldermen, first ward, Louis Antoninnie; second ward, James P. Tutwiler; third ward, William T. Reid; fourth ward, Lawrence W. Vogel; at-large, John R. Paine and H. S. Pinson; chief of police, W. D. Vanness; police, W. S. Vanhousen, James Buffo, A. M. Clark, David Bowser, Raphael Bunde.

The fire department consists of a volunteer company of about twenty men, with a chief and a driver of the city team; the former is now Carl Balmer and the latter (the only salaried man) is I. B. Hupp. The company is said to be one of the most efficient in all Indiana. The city owns a fine fire-fighting apparatus.

The board of education at present (1912) is: President, Dr. D. C. Schaff; secretary, Harmon K. Morgan; treasurer, Frank Slater; superintendent of schools, Prof. E. E. Oberholtzer.

The city has a fine public library, the gift of Andrew Carnegie, which building was completed in 1909, at a cost of thirteen thousand dollars. This library is held jointly by the city and Clinton township and a tax is levied for the purchase of books annually. The present board consists of: President, H. M. Ferguson; secretary, J. W. Strain; H. T. Harger, Roy Slater, Valzah Reeder, H. S. Pinson, Mrs. F. L. Swinehart, Miss Callie McMechen, Miss Bessie Vandyne. The librarian is Miss Faye Tillotson. The shelves of this new library are not well supplied with standard books, not even many of the state and United States government reports, but as time goes on doubtless the board will see to it that such works are added to the library, which now is really largely of interest to the school children and readers of fiction and the standard papers and periodicals. About \$1,800 is raised annually by taxation for the purchase of books. The coming year it is expected the levy will furnish \$2,800 for the extension of the library book stock. In December, 1912, there were 3,263 books on the shelves. The library was established in 1908 under the act of 1901-03.

## THE WATER WORKS AND LIGHT PLANT.

Up to about 1904 Clinton had no system of water works, but in that year the present system was installed. Wells were sunk to the gravel, in pure, living water, in the vicinity of the plant, which is near the heart of the business portion of the city and near the bank of the Wabash river. Bonds were floated in order to secure means with which to build the works, the cost to date being about \$73,520. The plant was put in in 1910 under the direction of Superintendent W. M. Hamilton, who is still in charge. The total number of miles of water mains in the city now is thirteen. The plant was greatly enlarged in 1910 and is now supposed to be sufficient for a city of twenty-five thousand population. The quality of water is second to none in the state. There are now thirteen wells, ranging in depth from sixty to seventy-five feet, going fifty feet below the waters of the Wabash river, terminating in white gravel and sand, making a fine natural filter. The daily capacity of this system is two and one-quarter million gallons. There are now ninety-two fire plugs or street hydrants, and in December, 1912, there were nine hundred customers. Water is sold both by meter and flat rate, the rates ranging from fifteen to thirty cents per thousand cubic feet. Three huge pumps are installed at the plant, but usually one is sufficient. In case of fire, another is set in motion and a pressure of one hundred pounds per square inch is realized in the business portion of the city. One of the mains extends about one mile out from the pumping plant. The present officers of the water works are the water committee of the city, with William Hamilton as superintendent, with Leslie Galloway and Jesse C. Patch as engineers, one for day and one for night.

## ELECTRIC LIGHTING PLANT.

While not a part of the municipal improvements, the electric lighting system in Clinton is here given. It is a private corporation, which organized and commenced operations in the summer of 1891, the turning on of the current being on July 1st of that year, and on the Fourth of July it was a feature of the city's Independence day celebration. It is known as the Clinton Electric Light and Power Company. Its first directors were J. E. Knowles, Daniel McBeth, B. H. Morgan, W. L. Morey, W. H. Bonner, J. W. Robb, secretary and manager, who has served in this capacity since then with a few years interim, and constantly since 1905. At first simply an arc system was installed, but in 1892 the incandescent system was put in



operation. The plant is located on Vine street, near the water works plant of the city, close to the railroad and river front. They now furnish power to all the factories and mills in the city, save two newspapers, even furnishing the power for the roller mills and refrigerating plant. It is all home capital and is a financial success. The plant has three immense Corliss engines and three dynamos, though but one usually is employed, the others being for emergency and power extension when needed. The present president of the company is David McBeth; vice-president, Mark Nebeker, and J. W. Robb is secretary and manager; the other director is B. H. Morgan.

#### ITEMS OF INTEREST.

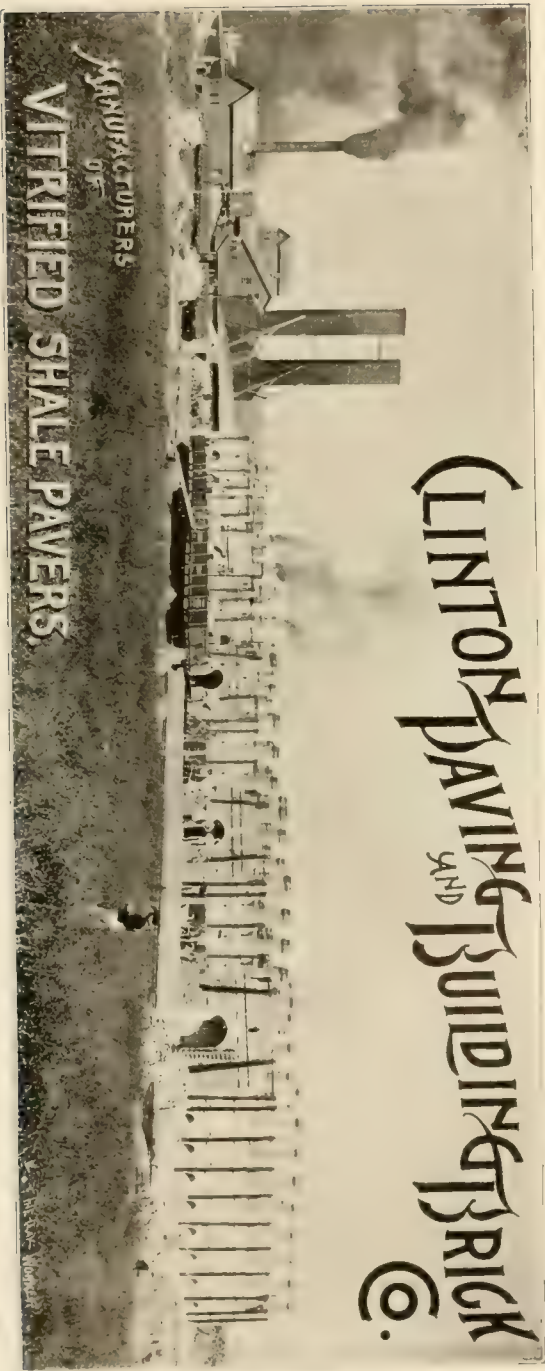
Among the experiences of the people of Clinton, in years gone by, the following may be of interest to the present-day and future generations:

Here, as elsewhere in Indiana, the liquor question has ever been a thorn in the side of respectable citizens. Here has been fought many a hard contest between temperance and anti-temperance people. The saloon is still here and will likely exist until some state or national law wipes the business from the face of the commonwealth. One of the most remarkable movements along this line, in modern days, was the "Woman's Crusade" of 1874-76. In 1874 a band of praying women laid siege to a saloon, day and night, being on duty in divisions, by turns. The proprietor finally surrendered. In April, 1875, a company of ladies, headed by Mrs. Malone and Mrs. Kibby, marched in double file to the saloon owned by Tice & Melcher, to hold an interview with the proprietors; but on arrival found the fort evacuated and the doors wide open. The ladies guarded the place until evening and then retired. The next night one of the proprietors was arrested, and while he was in custody the citizens gathered at the point of contest and demolished everything that contained intoxicating liquors. The proprietor then sued fifteen of the citizens for \$5,000 damages, but the case was compromised or dismissed. Other events of this crusade occurred, but of minor importance.

There are now numerous saloons doing business under a license system, while the work of the temperance press and pulpit, of temperance societies, including the Christian Temperance Unions, goes bravely on, with the hope of making public opinion in the state and county strong enough in the near future to forever do away with drinking places in the city.

(LINTON DAVING AND BUILDING BRICK ©.

MANUFACTURERS  
OF  
VITRIFIED SHALE PAVERS.





## NATURAL GAS.

What was styled the Clinton Natural Gas Company was organized in the spring of 1887, with a capital of from two to four thousand dollars. The president was C. Mathews; secretary, W. H. Hamilton; treasurer, N. C. Anderson. The other directors were J. J. Higgins, Decatur Downing, J. E. Knowles, C. B. Knowles, and W. A. Hays. Drilling followed, but the word failure was finally stamped on their laudable efforts.



## CHAPTER XIX.

### THE TOWN OF NEWPORT.

Newport, the seat of justice for Vermillion county, Indiana, was platted, or recorded as a "village," July 28, 1828, and re-platted and corrected up **for permanent record**, March 8, 1837, by S. S. Collett; its location is in section 26, township 17, range 9 west.

The first dry goods store opened here was by Daniel E. Jones, whose entire stock could have easily been carried on a wagon. This business was established in this manner: Jones was shipping hogs, some of which died. These were rendered into soap, which was sold for goods. Later, Mr. Jones became a wealthy man, went to Chicago, where he became a millionaire, and died in that city.

The first good residence in Newport was a building north of where the Methodist Episcopal church was erected. For many years the trees of this town were noted for their beauty and size. A number of locust trees were planted in 1832 and in 1887 had grown to measure over two feet in diameter, while one apple tree had grown to the unusual size of over three feet in diameter.

Newport was incorporated as a town early in the spring of 1870. The records show that the first officers were: William E. Livengood, president of the board; Clark Leavitt, Benjamin K. Dicken and E. Y. Jackson; J. A. Souders, clerk. Other presidents have been: E. Y. Jackson, James A. Bell, F. M. Bishop, S. H. Dallas, James A. Foland, William P. Henson, Oliver Knight, James Hasty, Robert Landon, Calvin Arrasmith, Robert E. Sears, John W. Cross. Passing down to the present time the officers are: President, I. M. Casebeer; other members of the board, William Ashton, Herbert C. Sawyer and John A. Darby; clerk, Clarence Magers; marshal, Mathew C. Ashcraft; treasurer, Robert A. Wiltermood; William C. Wait, solicitor.

Three attempts have been made to dissolve the incorporation of Newport, but all failed. The last was in 1877, when the question was put to the voters and by a majority of nineteen it was decided to hold the incorporation. The town is still without a system of water works, but is furnished (under a ten-year contract) from Cayuga with a good electric lighting system. The town hall is leased.

Going back many years, the town was noted for its milling interests. An old mill stood on Market street, called the Eureka Mills, run by steam. It was built by James A. Bell, who sold to Curtis & White, who in turn sold to B. J. Abbott, and while in the possession of the latter, January 26, 1882, it was burned, by a careless act of an employe, and was never rebuilt. The loss was estimated at three thousand five hundred dollars.

The chief industry is now the extensive tile works of William Dee, a Chicago capitalist, who has a series of plants for clay-working in this and Parke county. These works run day and night, the year around.

The banking interests have been already noticed in another chapter. The newspapers of Newport will be found in the Press chapter, and the churches and schools in other chapters.

On the night of May 5, 1884, the Newport postoffice was robbed of three hundred and fifty dollars, the safe being blown open. The burglars were frightened away by the passing of a young man in the vicinity before they obtained all that they had intended to. These thieves were never captured.

The town is built in a pleasing style, and many good residences are seen here and there. The site is an ideal one, and has a beautiful natural landscape surrounding it. The Chicago & Eastern Illinois railroad runs north and south, through the eastern part of the platting, about one mile from the court house and business section. The business houses are built largely around the four sides of the court house square.

While the saloon business is no longer a great menace to Newport, in times past it was an "eye-sore" to the better element, and many wrangles grew out of the liquor question. The town finally, in 1906, had its last saloon.

The population of Newport in 1912 was 732.

#### TEMPERANCE MATTERS.

Newport has had her own share of trouble over the liquor traffic, and the usual number of crusades and temperance societies and great temperance revivals. This was a vexatious question back before the Civil war period, when whisky was supposed to be better in grade than since Uncle Sam exacted a large revenue. But passing over these early trials, we come down to a time of which many now remember the circumstances and events, in attempting to make Newport a "dry" town. First the then popular Order of Good Templars was set on working basis at the place in 1868, with a

traveling Methodist minister, Rev. J. E. Wright, as president, Betsy Griffin, Joseph Hopkins, Benjamin Carter, Ivy A. Astor, Sally Canady, John Wigley, Rebecca Huff and Joseph Cheadle. The lodge has long since been disbanded.

The next movement was the tidal wave of the "Woman's Crusade" in 1874, having its birth in Ohio, and which struck Newport in 1874, with great force. Meetings were held in the churches, speeches made, and a committee appointed to wait upon the two saloon keepers of the county seat, who soon closed their dram shops and signed a pledge not to again open in Newport. The drug firm of William M. and William L. Triplett (father and son) refused to sign the pledge, offering one in its stead allowing them to sell liquor for medicinal, mechanical and sacramental purposes. They were publicly charged, in a set of formal resolutions, with selling liquor at wholesale for drinking purposes, but they denied the charge. The controversy was long and bitter, but they held their ground. Later the father died and the son removed from the community.

In December, 1874, a woman from the country, becoming enraged at her husband's way of spending his time and money in the saloon, made a general scatterment among the inmates of the saloon, which she entered boldly, and as a result her husband was made to walk straight to his home.

In 1877 that great temperance reformer, Francis Murphy, and his blue-ribbon movement came to Newport like a cyclone. More than three hundred men signed the pledge in two nights' time. Again in 1879 came the red-ribbon movement of Tyler Mason, which proved still greater in its effect.

At one time Newport had a very strong Woman's Christian Temperance Union and edited a department in the *Hoosier State*. Leading members were Mrs. Zachariah Thornton, Mrs. Ramsey, Mrs. Ervin Lamb, Mrs. Sears and others whose good work was not in vain. Fifty ladies in all were thus associated at Newport. Perrysville Woman's Christian Temperance Union was also associated with these ladies.

#### BUSINESS INTERESTS OF 1912.

Attorneys—Hugh H. Conley, W. Bert Conley, Martini G. Rhoads, E. E. Neel, Homer B. Aikman, Charles N. Fultz, William C. Wait, Forest W. Ingram, Herman J. Galloway.

Abstractors—E. E. Neel.

Banks—R. H. Nixon & Co.'s Bank (private), Citizens State Bank.

Barber Shops—John H. Nichols, James W. Thomas.

- Blacksmiths—John A. Darby, James C. Garrigus.
- Billiards and Pool—White & Nichols.
- Clothing and Furnishing Goods—Henry Watson.
- Confectionery and Fruits—Louis Coil.
- Cement Works—John G. Myers and Searing M. Robbins, of the firm of  
Robbins & Myers.
- Coal, Wood and Props—William H. Wiltermood.
- Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railway Agent—Ralph B. Hollingsworth.
- Citizens Mutual Telephone Company—H. V. Nixon, president; James W.  
Thomas, secretary; Adva Julian, electrician.
- Dry Goods—E. R. Stephens, John T. Simpson, Ordie E. Pritchard.
- Dray Line—Ottie White.
- Furniture and Undertaking—Sam D. Chipps.
- Groceries—E. R. Stephens, Benton Nichols (with bakery), White &  
Hughes, John T. Simpson.
- Grain—William M. Prillaman.
- Garage—"Newport Hill Garage," H. T. Payne and Ralph V. Hughes, pro-  
prietors; Byron Hamblen, mechanician.
- Harness—L. J. Place & Son.
- Hotel—"The Hart," by Robert A. Hart.
- Hardware and Implements—L. J. Place & Son, Maurice Hegarty.
- Jeweler—Levi P. Bever.
- Lumber—Greer-Wilkinson Lumber Company.
- Livery—L. J. Place.
- Music—Zachariah T. Galloway.
- Millinery—Alice M. Nichols.
- Meat Market—J. S. McCormick.
- Newspaper—*The Hoosier State*, S. B. Davis & Son, publishers, Bird H.  
Davis, editor.
- Physicians—Drs. I. M. Casebeer, M. L. Hall.
- Restaurants—Elmer Bush, Wiltermood Bros. (R. A. and George).
- Shetland Pony Farm—L. J. Place.
- Saw-mill—Charles T. Evans.
- Shoe Repair and Custom Work—John D. Brown.
- The B. A. W. Gasoline Light Manufacturing Company—Benjamin A. Wil-  
termood.
- Transfer Line—Andrew J. Wise.
- Tile Works—William E. Dee Clay Works.
- Theater—"Idle Hour Moving Pictures"—Elbert S. Nichols.



## CHAPTER XX.

### CLINTON TOWNSHIP.

Clinton township, named in honor of De Witt Clinton, a former governor of New York state, is the southern sub-division in Vermillion county. It contains forty-two square miles, and in 1880 had a population of 3,000, with personal property valued, in 1882, at \$643,675. Its population in 1910 was (including the city) 9,341, with an assessed valuation in city and township amounting to \$3,842,335.

John Vannest, the first settler in this county, located in section 9, of this township, in 1816. See an account of his settlement in the general chapter on "Early Settlement." The next to enter Clinton township was John Beard, who located and built the first house in what is now the city of Clinton, and in either 1819 or 1820 built what was later styled Patton's mill, three and a half miles southwest of Clinton, the same being Vermillion county's first mill. Mr. Beard was also an early justice of the peace.

In 1818 came William Hamilton, who had sons, John and William, who lived many years in the county, William dying about 1878. The parents of Nelson Reeder came from Ohio and settled here in 1818.

Judge Porter, of New York state, settled here in 1819. His son Charles was born in 1816, was a good and useful citizen, but finally ended his own life by suicide. John J. Martin, who died in about 1884, was in his second year when his parents moved to Clinton township in 1819. The same year Daniel McCulloch, born in York state in 1797, settled in Clinton township, this county, on a farm five miles southwest of Clinton. His son, W. B. McCulloch, was born here in 1830.

It was in 1820 when the parents of John Wright, Sr., emigrated with him from New York to Clinton township. George Wright came in 1832, and died many years ago.

Major Chunn, a regular army officer, came here from Terre Haute some time previous to 1820, and was an efficient soldier in driving the Indians away from this settlement. He also participated in the battle of Tippecanoe, under General Harrison, on November 7, 1811. He was many years one of the justices of the peace in Clinton township. His son, Thomas, was many years an honored citizen here.

John Clover, from Ohio, located in Clinton township in 1821, with his son, Joseph A. Clover. Joshua Dean, a native of Virginia, born in 1801, settled in this township in 1822, and died about 1877. The Andrews family, including several sons, located here in 1822. Henry and Eli Shew, natives of North Carolina, were mere boys when they located as residents of Clinton township. The former was born in 1815 and came here in 1825, and the latter, born in 1816, was brought here in 1823.

Capt. William Swan was born in Pennsylvania in 1802, settled in Clinton township, this county, in 1823, was a member of the first jury in Vermillion county and followed the river, making over sixty trips to New Orleans on both rafts and flat-boats. He was a Universalist in his religious belief, and a Freemason. He died at Clinton, January 29, 1887.

Washington Potter, who was still living in 1887, was eight years old in 1823, when he was brought to this township from Ohio. He was a carpenter by trade.

Silas Davis, a cooper and farmer, was born in 1818, and came to this township in 1823. The parents of William and Israel Wood came here in 1824. The same year came John W. Hedges. His son, Dr. I. B. Hedges, was born October 30, 1819, died February 24, 1883, and was buried in the Clinton cemetery. It was also in 1824 when the father of Walter G. Crabb, born in Fayette county, Ohio, came here to reside. In 1827 came James H. Allen, born in Ohio in 1822.

John Payton, an early merchant in Clinton, born in Ohio in 1818, came here in 1828. The same year came James Clark, Sr., from Ohio, where he was born in 1798. He became a sturdy farmer a mile and a half west of Clinton.

Samuel Davidson, deceased many years since, was born in Ohio in 1817, and settled in this township in 1830. Martin N. Davidson was born in Ohio in 1829, was brought here in 1832, lived here many years and was a resident of Terre Haute for many years later in his life.

George W. Edwards, of Clinton, was born in Indiana in 1827, and became a resident here in 1830. Andrew Reed, a native of North Carolina, settled here in 1830. Thomas Kibby, born in this state in 1810, came to Clinton township in 1830.

Benjamin R. Whitcomb, born in Vermont in 1798, and his cousin and business partner, John Whitcomb, came in 1828, settling in the village of Clinton, where they were among the pioneer merchants, pork packers, etc. John died in August, 1830, aged forty-one years. Benjamin R. died April 23, 1861, and his wife, Anna S., died May 21, 1860.

John R. Whitcomb, another merchant, born in Ohio in 1804, first settled

in Edgar county, Illinois, in 1832, and in the village of Clinton in 1834. He died in March, 1873.

Scott Malone, who married Sarah, one of the twin daughters of pioneer John Vannest, came in from Ohio and resided here until his death, in the eighties.

Simeon Taylor, a native of Indiana, born in 1818, settled in this county in 1831, and died in the eighties. John F., his brother, born in Ohio, resided here and survived him.

In 1832 there settled in Clinton township Thomas G. Wilson, born in Virginia in 1804; William J. Noblitt, born in Tennessee in 1825; Benjamin Harrison, born in Virginia in 1805, was a justice of the peace many years and was still living here in 1887.

Robert H. and Adaline (West) Nichols located in Clinton township in 1835. He died here in 1872, aged fifty-five years, and she in 1874, aged sixty-five years.

Hiram B. Cole, John Ferral and John Marks were early Clinton merchants. The latter moved South. Ferral died February 25, 1832, aged thirty-six years.

In 1836 came William Payton and Philo Harkness. Payton was born in Kentucky in 1814, and Harkness in New York in 1816. In 1837 came Reuben Propst, and the next year Isaac Propst, natives of Virginia, but finally removed from this county. Aquilla Nebeker, born in Delaware in 1815, located in Clinton township in 1837. He was a liberal-minded citizen and a very considerate, kind neighbor. He died in 1880. Jesse Spangler, a native of Pennsylvania, born in 1807, settled here in 1837, and died here about 1881. D. F. Fawcett came in from Virginia in 1833, settling near Goshen, Vigo county, and then in 1837, in this county, near the southwest corner. He died in 1845 in Jasper county, Illinois.

From the above date on, the settlers came in so rapidly that it is impossible to trace their comings and goings, but they included many of Clinton township's best citizens.

A former history of Vermillion county mentions, in 1887, the fact of there being three or four saw-mills in Clinton township, besides the two located at Clinton. Also that one of the largest agricultural interests in the township, at that date, was the extensive stock farm of Claude Mathews at Hazel Bluff, on Brouillet's creek, some three miles from Clinton.

Of the churches and schools of Clinton township, the general chapters on these topics will treat in detail. Also the great coal mining interests form

a special chapter, hence will not be mentioned in this township history. This is the civil township in which is situated the city of Clinton, the largest place in the county, whose separate history appears in another chapter.

Another town of the township of Clinton is Fairview Park, adjoining the city of Clinton, platted in 1902 and is a separate incorporation. It has a population of about seven hundred, and has numerous stores and shops, with many residences, schools and churches.



## CHAPTER XXI.

### EUGENE TOWNSHIP.

This township is the second from the north line of the county, and is bounded on the east by Parke county, the Wabash river being the dividing line; on the south is Vermillion township, on the west is the state of Illinois, and on the north is Highland township. In this portion of Vermillion county, more than at any other point, were the Indian villages, battlefields and first trading posts, as well as the first settlements by white men. While it is true that John Vannest settled the county first in Clinton township, the settlement in Eugene was much more rapid than in other parts of the county. Eugene township contains thirty-three square miles, and in 1880 had a population of 1,340, with personal property valued at \$681,000. In 1910 the population was, including Cayuga, 2,112. In 1911 the assessed valuation of both personal and real property in this township was \$1,376,085, exclusive of Newport, which had \$402,720.

In 1869 Prof. John Collett discovered, in a mound near Eugene, a small coin upon which was an untranslatable inscription, in characters closely resembling Arabic. This mound was covered with full-grown forest trees.

Early settlers near Eugene village found an ax imbedded in the heart of an oak tree, with one hundred and twenty-five rings about it, thus indicating that the implement had been left there as early as 1712, or more than two hundred years ago. It was probably left there by the French people, possibly a missionary. It is true that different kinds of timber, growing in different soils, may vary in the years noted by the "timber rings," but this ax was evidently placed there long before the Revolutionary struggle.

The following rare exhibition of animal nature occurred in this township: One evening about sundown in April, 1868, as "Eel" Vickers, who lived about four miles northwest of Eugene village, was returning home from a house-raising, he was suddenly alarmed by the scream of a lynx, which he soon discovered was in pursuit of him. Being unarmed, he dared not give battle, and began to run homeward with all his might. Of course the beast could easily enough have overtaken Vickers at a bound or two, whenever it desired, but such is feline nature that it occasionally rested a moment and

screamed most terrifically. When Vickers approached his house the animal jumped around in front of him, to intercept his passage to the house; but at this critical moment, the dogs arrived and chased it away. Its previous yelping had alarmed them and brought them out just in time, but not a second too soon.

#### EARLY SETTLEMENT.

It was in Eugene township that the Groenendykes, Thompsons, Porters, Armours, Colletts, Hepburns, Colemans, Malones, Naylor, Shelby and others effected a settlement. Many of these worthy pioneers left numerous descendants who became and are still residents and influential citizens of Vermillion county.

The first mill in this county was that erected in Clinton township by John Beard, either in 1819 or 1820. However, that was a small affair compared to the one built in this township by John Groenendyke, about the same date, on Big Vermillion river, at the point in the northern portion of Eugene township where the village of Eugene was laid out. This was for many years the best and largest mill in Vermillion county.

The following is an incomplete chronological list of pioneers who made their way to Eugene township between 1816 and 1840:

1816—Noah Hubbard, with a wife and a large family of children. After residing here many years he became a Mormon and went to Missouri, to join his people, then to Nauvoo, Illinois, remaining with them until they were driven away by the Gentiles, about 1847, when he returned to this county and began preaching that peculiar doctrine. Rejoining the Mormons in the colony at Council Bluffs, Iowa, he died there.

1818—Isaac Coleman settled three miles south of Eugene, on the prairie since known as Coleman's prairie. Judge J. M. Coleman came to the township a year later, from Virginia, settling on section 16, township 17, range 9 west, and was long and intimately associated with the Collett families. He had aided in laying out the city of Indianapolis, and also Terre Haute, where he also built the old court house. In this county he was one of the first grand jurymen, and an associate judge. Subsequently, he removed to Iowa City, Iowa, where he built the State House, died and was buried there. The same year (1818) came Major James Blair, who settled on the northeast quarter of section 16, township 17, range 9 west, and at his cabin on this place was held the first term of court in Vermillion county. He had been a sharpshooter on Lake Erie, under Commodore Perry, in the war of 1812, when he was detailed to shoot at the Indians in the rigging of the British war vessels:

but at the very first fire of Perry's artillery the Indians were so frightened that they hastily "scuttled" down into the hold, and there were no Indians for Blair to do his duty upon. As his vessel sailed past the British man-of-war he could see the glittering tin canisters down through the muzzles of their guns. For his faithful services Mr. Blair received a medal from the American government. On one occasion, after he became a resident of Vermillion county, he was a candidate for the Legislature. He attended a shooting match, in which he participated, and aimed so well that every man present voted for him at the ensuing election! On still another occasion he played an amusing trick upon the simple-minded pioneers and Indians, in the settlement of a controversy between them. Blair married a daughter of Judge Coleman, resided for a time on Coleman's prairie, then moved up the river and founded Perrysville, which place he named in honor of his brave commander, Commodore Oliver H. Perry, remaining there until his death. Both Blair and Coleman had an intimate acquaintance with the Indians and lived in friendship with them for a number of years. It frequently fell to their lot to act as peacemaker between the Indians and what were termed "border ruffians," who were much the worse of the two. These two pioneers always spoke in the highest terms of Se-Seep, the last chief who lived in the vicinity, who it is said was one hundred and ten years of age, when he was foully murdered by a renegade Indian of his own tribe. Like the fading autumn leaves, the Indians of these forests of Vermillion county died away. The guns and dogs of the white man frightened away the game from their hunting grounds, or destroyed it, and the virtue of a dire necessity called upon them to emigrate, to make room for the ax and the plow, the cabin and the log school house of the incoming white race.

1819—John Groenendyke came in from near Cayuga county, New York, first to Terre Haute in 1818 and the next year to this county, settling on the Big Vermillion river where Eugene now stands. He was the father of James—who built the "Big Vermillion," the first large grist-mill in the county already referred to—and Samuel, and the grandfather of Hon. John Groenendyke and his cousin Samuel, and also the grandfather of the later generations of Colletts. The name was originally Van Groenendyke, which the old-time express agent at Eugene further abbreviated to Grondyke, a word of two syllables, the first being pronounced "groan." The first family of this line came to America from Holland with the Knickerbockers in 1617, settling in New Amsterdam (New York).

1821—James Armour settled here soon after Mr. Groenendyke, and assisted in building the pioneer mill; he removed to Illinois about 1877. Alexan-

der Arrasmith, born in Kentucky in 1795, emigrated to Sullivan county, Indiana, in 1818, and in either 1821 or 1824 came to Vermillion county. He died at his home, two and a half miles south of Eugene, January 15, 1875, having been a member of the Methodist Episcopal church for forty-odd years. He was the father of Richard Arrasmith, born in Sullivan county, 1818, and of Thomas Arrasmith, a wagon-maker at Newport at an early day.

1822—William Thompson, father of James, John and Andrew, and of Mrs. Jane Shelby, from Pennsylvania, settled near the big spring a mile south from Eugene. Their descendants were frugal, industrious people and hence accumulated a large amount of property. The same year came in Benjamin Shaw, from Vigo county, but originally from Kentucky, and settled near Eugene, and afterward on the Little Vermillion, five miles west from Newport, where he died over three-quarters of a century ago. He was the father of ten children, three of whom survived their mother. Andrew Tipton came to this township in 1822 from Kentucky, where he was born in 1800. He remained here until his death. J. W. Tipton, of Ohio, settled on the Wabash river.

1823—Lewis Jones located here about 1823, and died after the Civil war. J. A. Jones, born in 1821, was brought to this township in 1823.

1824—Jones Lindsey, born in Ohio, in 1818, came here in 1824. The next year there arrived Oliver Lindsley, born in Ohio in 1807. Judge Rezin Shelby, who became very wealthy, died here many years since.

1825—The parents of James Sheward, who was born this year. Ezekiel Sheward about 1870 in the township.

1826—William Fultz, Sr., born in Pennsylvania in 1805, with his wife Nancy, came to Eugene township this year, locating on Sand Prairie. They had thirteen children. The parents of Joseph Holtz, who was born in Ohio in 1822, came to the county in this year. John Holtz, who was born in Ohio, the same year, settled here in 1834.

1827—Samuel W. Malone, born in Ohio in 1810, came to Helt township, this county, in 1824, and to Eugene township in 1827; he conducted a hotel for a number of years. M. W. Newman, born in Virginia in 1811, was still a resident of the township in 1887. Martin Patrick came some time before 1827. Hiram Patrick was born here in 1829, and William Patrick, in 1831, lived here many years, then moved to Missouri. About this date came also John Ross, born in Ohio in 1829, and brought here the same year.

1828—Ignatius Sollars, who died in June, 1833. Nancy, wife of Truman Sollars, died September 15, 1869, aged fifty-seven and a half years. Matthew Cole, born in Ohio in 1824, was brought to this county in 1828, as was



also Jesse Smith, from Tennessee, the year of his birth. The same year came also W. L. Naylor, and the next year Lewis T. Naylor, who still resided here in the latter eighties. Both were born in Ohio, W. L. in 1821 and Lewis T. in 1826. Benjamin Naylor, another old resident, was born in 1826. Jacob Iles, who died forty years or more ago, was the father of James B. Iles, born in 1829, and Jacob H., born in 1833, both natives of this county.

1829—John Hepburn, Sr., who was born in Virginia, died here about 1880. John Hepburn, Jr., was a native of Vermillion county, this state. William Hepburn was born in Ohio in 1823, and was brought here in 1829. Enoch W. Lane, born in Ohio in 1798, died here before 1850.

1830—John Sims, born in Virginia in 1808, lived a mile and a half south of Eugene many years. "Crate" Sims, his son, was born in Virginia the same year. Charles S. Little, from Virginia, located near Eugene in 1830, and died in 1852, aged sixty-three years. His wife, whose maiden name was Rachel Moore, died, aged eighty years, southwest of Newport, in 1881. Rev. Enoch Kingsbury came from Massachusetts to Eugene about 1830, and organized the Presbyterian church. His wife, Fanny G., taught school there for a number of terms. Their eldest son, James G. Kingsbury, one of the editors and publishers of the *Indiana Farmer* at Indianapolis, was born at the residence of Dr. Asa R. Palmer, two miles north of Eugene village, in 1832. The same year the family removed to Danville, Illinois, where Mr. Kingsbury organized a church and preached there many years. He also acted in the capacity of a home missionary, preaching in neighboring counties both in Indiana and Illinois, till the close of his life in 1868.

1831—Harrison Alderson, who died at a very early day here, came that year to this township.

1832—Philo and Milo Hosford, twins, born in New York in 1811. Milo died in January, 1880, after having spent a most useful and excellent life in this county. He was many years in the employ of Samuel Gronendyke. Joseph Wigley, this year, came to Eugene township.

1833—Isaac A. Brown, Sr., born in Tennessee in 1816, settled "Brown Town," and was still living in the latter part of the eighties. He had at one time in his life weighed three hundred pounds.

1834—John Rheuby, about this year, came in from Illinois and settled; he was a pioneer in Illinois in 1826. William Reuby was born in this county in 1834. J. W. Boyd was born in Pennsylvania in 1828, died here in the eighties.

1837—The parents of Edward B. and Joseph Johnson; father died many years since. Edward B. was born in Indiana in 1830, and Joseph in this

county in 1834. Goldman M. Hart, born in Tennessee in 1809, died in 1886. James C. Tutt, born in Virginia in 1816, removed from Eugene to the south part of Vermillion county.

1830—Barney Vandevander, born in Illinois in 1827, was a resident of Eugene in 1888.

Other pioneers, whose years of arrival are not given, are Zeno Worth and Shubael Gardner, from North Carolina, who settled in Walnut Grove. Mr. Worth selected lands which were held by his family many years and still largely within the names of his descendants, the generation now numbering five in this county. Alexander Richardson came that year also, and died in Indianapolis in 1864, or possibly a little later. Lewis Hollingsworth was born in this county in 1835. On Coleman's prairie settled families named Wilson, Dicken, Hopkins, etc.

John R. Porter, A. M., circuit judge for many years, and an advanced farmer between Eugene and Newport, was born in Pittsfield, Massachusetts, February 22, 1796, of an "old English family;" graduated at Union College, Schenectady, New York, in 1815, taking the first honors of his class. He studied law, and in 1818 became a partner of his preceptor. About 1820 he came to Paoli, Orange county, Indiana, where he was county clerk, postmaster and circuit judge. While there he married Mary Worth. Receiving while there the appointment of president judge of western Indiana, he moved to this county, settling in Eugene township. His circuit extended from the Ohio river to Lake Michigan. His term expired in 1837. Here he was elected judge of the court of common pleas for the counties of Parke and Vermillion, which office he held until his death, about 1850. He was a prominent statesman in early days, in laying the foundation of Indiana jurisprudence. Was a close reader of Eastern agricultural papers, and also of ancient classics, as well as foreign magazine literature. His conversational powers were consequently great, and his letters to the press were gems of eloquence. He was in correspondence, more or less, with such men as General Harrison, Henry Clay, Daniel Webster, etc., besides many Georgia "colonels." Prominent Indiana men were frequently his guests. He was the leading spirit in all the public meetings in his neighborhood assembled for the deliberation of measures of public welfare. He was president of the Logansport convention, which gave initial direction to the construction of the Wabash Valley Railroad. As an agriculturist he was scientific and in advance of all his neighbors—so far indeed as often to excite their ridicule. He led in the rearing of fine-wooled sheep, and in the cultivation of Switzer lucerne, ruta-bagas, sugar beets, moris, multicaulis, Baden corn and hemp. These paid him well in

pleasure derived therefrom, if not in money receipts. The Judge was a broad, many-sided man, the likes of whom are seldom met with in any generation.

#### TOWNS AND VILLAGES.

The towns and villages of this township are chiefly Eugene and Cayuga. Of Eugene, it may be stated that it was laid out by S. S. Collett, in 1827, about the "Big Vermillion" mills of James Groenendyke. Samuel W. Malone, who later became a noted hotel keeper there, located at that point in 1827. He was still hale and hearty in 1887. James P. Naylor, father of William L. Naylor, came in the next year. Eugene is but another example of how a railroad may kill or make a town. The Toledo, Chicago & Eastern railroad built its line a little to the south of this village and then started up Cayuga. In 1887 Eugene had a population of about five hundred people. Its present population is placed at four hundred. The following was written of this village nearly thirty years ago: "Two or three conspicuous features strike the stranger who visits the place. One is a most magnificent row of shade trees for a distance of two squares on the west side of the main business street—these are sugar maple. Each tree, with a perfectly symmetrical head, covers an area of forty feet in diameter. In the western part of the village is the most beautiful, perfect large white elm the writer ever saw.

"The ground on which Eugene is situated is just sandy enough to be good for gardening and at the same time prevent mud in rainy season. Wells are sunk only eighteen or twenty feet to find the purest water in a bed of gravel. Several large springs are in the vicinity. The river, especially below the mill dam, affords the best fishing of all points probably within a fifty mile radius. Fish weighing sixty pounds or more are sometimes caught, and German carp, one of the planted fish, weighing eight pounds are occasionally captured.

"The country here is all underlaid with coal. There is one vein of nine feet with only a seam of ten or twelve inches dividing it."

On the bank of the river here was erected by James Groenendyke some time previous to 1824 a water saw and grist-mill, which, with its successors, enjoyed the greatest notoriety of all in Vermillion county. While Mr. Coleman owned it, more than forty years ago, the dam went out, and in 1885 a new mill was erected, it being the third building on the same mill site, two having burned. The 1885 mill was a large roller-process plant, managed by Samuel Bowers.

The first newspaper in this county had its birth and death at Eugene. It

was the *New Letter*, by Dr. R. M. Waterman, and it was established in 1837, and breathed its last six months later!

The business interests of this village are not large, in fact the railroads and building up of other towns has cast a settled gloom over all former hopes of greatness. But around this quiet, quaint old country village rests many a fond, almost sacred memory, to the mind of the pioneers' children and grandchildren.

#### CAYUGA.

Cayuga (or Eugene Station, as it was called many years ago) is at the railroad crossing of the north and south and the east and west lines of railroads in Eugene township (the "Clover Leaf" and the Chicago & Eastern Illinois). The census books for 1910 gave it a population of almost one thousand people. It was at first named Osonimon, after an Indian chief of that name. The place is alive to every worthy business enterprise and its people are a whole-souled class, who seem to live "for the heaven that smiles above them and the good that they can do."

The Cayuga mills were built in 1885 by a company consisting of Samuel K. Todd, Monroe G. Hosford and Eli H. McDaniel. It was a full roller process with a daily capacity of one hundred barrels. It was run by a seventy-horse-power engine. This mill was built in the midst of a wheat field, and was a success from the start.

Of the churches, lodges and schools of Cayuga, the reader is referred to other chapters in this volume, on these special topics.

A Grand Army of the Republic post was organized at Cayuga in 1876, with about twenty-two charter members and later had as high as thirty-five enrolled. The first post commander was Williant C. Eichelberger.

A Good Templar society was formed here in 1873 and continued until 1884. It had seventy members. The Red Ribbon movement was introduced here by Tyler Mason and the Blue Ribbon movement by George McDonald. In 1886 a total abstinence society was formed, made up largely of reformed drunkards. It was sometimes referred to as the "Reformed Roosters."

The churches of today in Cayuga are the Christian, United Brethren. In Union, the Presbyterian. The lodges are the Masonic, Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias, Woodmen of the World and Moose.

The village was made a town by act of incorporation in about 1891, and its present officers are: President of the board, John T. Higgins; the balance of the board are S. C. Darroch, J. N. Spinks, Claire Van Duyn, D. P. Williams; town clerk, George T. Ritter; marshal, Charles Prater



The town is lighted by an electric plant owned by a Chicago capitalist, while the telephone service is of home capital. The town has great need of water works. The electric light plant here supplies the county seat, Newport, with lights, under a ten-year contract.

The postoffice safe was blown up by dynamite at one-thirty o'clock on the morning of April 12, 1890. So heavy was the charge that the safe was blown to fragments. Window glass was broken in the front of residences and business houses. No money was obtained, however, neither any stamps; but the midnight thieves carried away many valuable papers belonging to the postmaster, and also those of Conway & M. W. Coffin, lawyers. No clue was ever had to the parties who blew up the office.

#### COLLETT'S HOME FOR ORPHANS.

This institution is situated near the Vermillion and Eugene township line, about three and one-half miles from Newport, the county seat. It was opened in June, 1902, and was founded by Prof. John Collett and Josephus Collett, both deceased, but whose property had been divided so that it was possible to endow this home. It stands on a beautiful four-hundred-acre tract of farm land. It is a handsome building, costing originally twenty thousand dollars. The home was first opened by a superintendent who had been elected by the trustees of the Collett estate, named Charles W. Ward, with Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Campbell, of Danville, Illinois, as overseer and matron. The conditions upon which this orphans' home was founded were such that any bright orphan who had lived in Vermillion county six months might be received and cared for, but no idiots or feeble-minded children find a home here, save in special cases. At first, before the place became too much crowded, old ladies of good character were allowed a home here, but after a few years it was found that childhood and old age did not seem to agree one with the other, and the ladies had to leave the home. The board reserves the right to reject any they see fit, but the worthy and unfortunate orphan here is ever welcome and well cared for. One thing was stipulated in the endowment, and that was that the place should forever be for orphan children and that the name should never be changed. The building is thirty-seven by ninety feet, and the rooms include library, reading rooms, matron's and superintendent's offices and rooms, an overseer's room, etc. Toilet rooms and bath rooms are provided on both floors. An excellent kitchen and butler's room, a nursery department, for boys and girls, a sick room, a basement, with laundry, dry room, vegetable cellar and coal room with a large attic, where is a play



SOLDIERS' MONUMENT.  
CLINTON.



THE COLLETTS ORPHANS' HOME.



house and room for ten extra beds, completes the rooms of the home. The floors are hard maple and the rooms are finished in hard pine. A large porch extends over the entire frontage of the building, and attractive columns, two feet in diameter, extend from the ground up in front of both stories, which are of the Southern colonial style of architecture. A heating plant and lighting plant provide many conveniences. This institution is a credit to the designers and the kind-hearted men of philanthropy, who made it possible to provide such an excellent home for orphans in Vermillion county. The board of trustees, with the secretary and treasurer, annually provide for the management of the home, which has accomplished much good already. As the years go by the people more and more appreciate this generous gift from two highly honored men who sought the happiness of the weak and parentless children. The orphan, above all others, will ever exclaim "Peace be to the ashes of the two Colletts."

The present secretary of the home is G. W. Wait, of Newport. The author is indebted largely to the editor of the *Hoosier State*, published at Newport, for the above facts concerning this humane institution and its

#### BUSINESS INTERESTS IN 1912.

At Cayuga in the winter of 1912-13 the business interests consisted of the following:

Banking—The First National.

General Dealers—Richardson Bros., Burton Dry Goods Company, Dale & Darrow, Van Houtin (E. E. & Son).

Groceries—Galbreath & Schriener, C. M. Guy.

Hardware—Fable & Son, G. L. Watson & Co. (also undertaking and furniture).

Furniture—Thomas A. Sprouts.

Clothing—L. L. Haughn.

Five and Ten Cent Store—John S. Grondyke.

Drugs—Booe & Booe, Daniel Conway.

Farm Implements—J. O. Higgins.

Lumber—James Morgan & Company.

Grain and Coal—Cayuga Milling Company.

Photographs—A. D. Conelly.

Mills—Cayuga Milling Company.

Jewelry—George T. Ritter.

Harness Shop and Shoes—Whittington Bros. (N. T. and W. W.).



Restaurants—Charles P. Miller, A. N. Mendenhall, Charles Gillis.

Hotels—The Higgins and the Cayuga House.

Newspaper—*The Herald*.

Blacksmith Shops—Claire Van Duyn, William P. Brown.

Barber Shops—T. T. Sollers, Daniel Sollers, Milt Laughlin.

Opera House—Frank Lindsley, manager.

Meat Market—Ed. T. McMillen.

Livery—A. L. Clark.

Bakery—Cayuga Bakery, James A. Barr, proprietor.

Canning Factory—C. P. Miller, president.

Telephone and Light Companies.

Physicians—Drs. E. A. Flaughner, W. P. & S. C. Darroch, M. R. Pol-  
lom.

Dentist—George E. Wier.

There are several small "farmers'" coal mines in the neighborhood.

There are two brick plants, the Acme and the Cayuga Brick Company.

The canning factory, a home industry, packs corn, peas and tomatoes.

## CHAPTER XXII.

### HELT TOWNSHIP.

Helt township is the second from the southern line of Vermillion county and extends from the Wabash river west to the state line of Indiana and Illinois. It contains seventy-two square miles, and in 1880 had a population of 3,027, with a personal property valuation of \$1,411,745. The 1910 United States census gave this township a population of 3,543, including the town of Dana, which had a population of 748. This is one of Vermillion county's most wealthy and progressive agricultural sub-divisions, and has numerous towns, villages and hamlets within its borders. Its farming and mineral resources are very large and constantly on the increase. Land is doubling in value and the citizens are now in a prosperous condition financially. Her schools and churches, which are of the up-to-date type, are treated in other separate chapters.

### PIONEER SETTLEMENTS.

While the following is not a complete list of all the men and women who sought homes here in the pioneer days, it gives the most of them in the years noted:

1817-18—In the winter of 1817-18 came Obediah Swayze, who occupied, as a "squatter," one of the three cabins just built by the Helts. He, however, remained as a permanent citizen. His remains now lie buried in Helt's Prairie cemetery, with his wife, two sons and a daughter. He had a grandson in 1887, living in Kansas City, whose name was Wesley Wright.

1818—Daniel Helt, after whom the prairie and township were named, was born in Pennsylvania in 1791, was a soldier in the war of 1812, under General Harrison, and died March 25, 1870, a good man and an acceptable member of the Methodist Episcopal church. George, John and Michael Helt, all long since deceased. C. B. Thomas, Hiram, E. B. and F. M. Helt were all born here in pioneer times. Augustus Ford, from Ohio, long since deceased. His son John, born in Ohio, in 1809, came with him and died May 6, 1882, after having lived upon the farm first occupied for half a century. Mr. Rodney, from Maine. John Skidmore, who died at the age of

eighty years. Hon. William Skidmore, born February 19, 1819, died in the eighties.

George Skidmore was born in 1824 and Josiah Skidmore in 1831. Samuel Rush, father of James, who was born in Ohio in 1817. This year, or soon thereafter, C. C. Hiddle (or John Hiddle, according to one version) and John Martin came and built the first cabin on Hiddle's Prairie.

1819—Samuel Ryerson, who died January 31, 1862, at Clinton. His wife Phebe died in the autumn of 1874, aged seventy-nine years. She was a remarkable woman. At the age of twelve years she had never heard one pray. At that time she attended a Methodist meeting, where the expected preacher did not arrive, and the class leader sang and prayed, which was the means of her conviction and conversion and she remained a zealous member of the church all of her life. She and her husband formed the first Methodist Episcopal class on Helt's prairie, consisting of eight persons, soon after their settlement here. A short time before her death she willed one thousand five hundred dollars to the missionary society, five hundred dollars to Asbury University, two hundred dollars to the educational fund of this county and two hundred dollars to the Biblical Institute at Evanston, Illinois, besides other sums to various individuals. Mathew Harbison came this year. Joseph Harbison was born in this township in 1834.

1820—Mr. Hood, father of Charles D. and S. S. Hood, both of whom were born in Tennessee in 1814 and 1815, and they were still here in the late eighties. According to one authority, Joel Hollingsworth arrived in Helt township this year.

1821—Abraham and Enoch White. The latter was born in Kentucky in 1814. James Harper. Stephen Harrington, who was born in Ohio in 1814, was a resident here during most of the county's existence. Warham (or "Wirum") Mack, born in Ohio in 1801, died here. The other Macks came later.

1822—William Andrew, Sr., tanner and farmer, born in Ohio in 1807, and died of heart disease in 1879, two miles southwest of St. Bernice, a member of the United Brethren church. John Conley came the same year. M. A. Conley, long a resident, was born in this township this year. James Conley, born in Ohio in 1817, and William Conley were both pioneers here.

1823—Alanson Church. His son Josiah was born here September 29, 1823, and died in January, 1884, two and a half miles west of Summit Grove. Eleven of his twelve children were still living in 1887. John Peer, Sr., born in Virginia, has long since been deceased. John Peer, Jr., a resi-

dent, was born here in 1834. The Pearman family, of the younger members of which John was still living in 1886.

1824—John Van Camp, in whose house this year was the first election held in the township, moved to Missouri. John Langston, father of Oliver Langston. William L. Malone, born in Ohio in 1805. Richard, his son, born in Ohio in 1826, later resided in Dana.

1825—Caleb Bales, Sr., from Virginia, died in 1836. Caleb Bales, Jr., was still living in this township in the eighties. William Bales was born in Virginia in 1827 and settled in this county in 1831. William F. Bales was born in 1829. Chandler Tillotson, who came to this county about the same period, died in this township. Daniel G. and G. B. Tillotson were born here in 1825.

1826—Edwin (or Edmund), William and Elijah James. S. R. Joseph, W. A. and S. R. James were all natives of this county and resided in Helt township. Mr. Keyes, father of Dr. C. F. Keyes, of Dana. The Doctor (the senior) was born in Indiana in 1822, brought to Helt township, where he was reared. He became a competent physician, and died at Dana February 8, 1884, leaving a wife and five children. John Van Dyn, born in New Jersey in 1803. Mr. Thompson came the same year. Also Mr. Rhoades, father of Stephen Rhoades, was born in Kentucky in 1822. William Kearns, born in Kentucky in 1806, died in the seventies. His son John was born in 1832. Samuel Pyle was two years old at this date, and was brought here and became later an honored citizen of the township.

1827—Washington Engram, born in Kentucky in 1812. John O. Rogers, born in Helt township this year, later resided at the town of Dana. Asa Mack came in this year or the year just previously. His son, Dr. Erastus Mack, was born this year and another son, N. B. Mack, born in 1832, went to California.

1828—Joel Hollingsworth, born in South Carolina in 1801, died May 30, 1875, in this township. George Hollingsworth, a carpenter, was born in 1827 in Indiana, and was brought here in 1839.

1829—The French family. Felix French, born here this year, went to Michigan. Samuel French, long resident. Joseph and John Staats, brothers, were from Virginia. Israel and Abraham Leatherman were lads when they arrived this year. Samuel Hoagland was born in this county in 1829, and was a citizen here for a lifetime. Wesley Southard was born in Virginia in 1811. William Russell, Sr., born in Virginia in 1797, was still living here in 1887. David and Mahlon Russell were born here, in 1830 and 1833.



1830—James L. Wishard, born in Kentucky in 1794, was a soldier in the war of 1812, and died about 1884. John O. Wishard, born in the same state in 1805, came in 1834 and has long been deceased. J. H. Wishard, a life-long resident, born in this year. James L. Payton, born in 1800. James Payton, born in 1835, also deceased. A. M. Payton was born in Kentucky in 1823 and was seven years of age when brought here. James A. Edmanson, born in Indiana in 1828, was brought here in 1830 and lived here many years, then moved to Illinois. Robert Norris, a native of South Carolina, born in 1796, died in this township in 1873. John T. Bowen, Sr., born in Tennessee in 1800, has been dead more than thirty years. J. T. Bowen, Jr., was born in this county in 1831. Jacob Miller, born in Kentucky in 1818. Mary E. Miller, born in North Carolina in 1816, came in 1831. John and O. R. Blakesley, born here in 1830 and 1833, remained residents until their death.

1831—Joseph Jones, born in Kentucky in 1810; Matthew Jones, born in North Carolina in 1818; Thomas Jones, shoemaker, born in the same state in 1820; and Wiley Jones, also of the same state, all came this year. Wiley, however, soon removed to Illinois. William Jones, an old resident in 1886, was born in Indiana in 1829.

1832—James Andrews came to this township before 1834. Sarah Eliza Andrews, born in 1820, married Mr. Dethrick and moved West. Hannah Andrews, born in Massachusetts in 1823, came to Vermillion county in 1839. John W. Reed, born in North Carolina in 1822, resided here from 1832 until his death in September, 1885, at Dana. David Reed, born in North Carolina in 1825, was a resident here for many years. P. M. Stokesberry, born in Ohio in 1808, was deceased in 1886. James H. White was born in Tennessee in 1805, and O. J. White was born this year in Helt township. William Higbee, born in Ohio in 1814, lived in the township until in the late eighties.

1833—J. S. Fisher, born in Kentucky in 1808, died thirty years and more ago. Benjamin, James and Joseph Fisher, pioneers and life-long citizens. Benjamin Miles, born in Kentucky in 1813; also a Mr. Foncannon, from Virginia. H. W. and John R. Roshstan, living at Dana for many years. James A. and Elder and James R. Finnell, the former from Ohio, and the latter from Kentucky, were both eleven years of age when brought here in 1833.

1834—Samuel Aikman, born in Indiana in 1814, was a long resident in Dana, this township. Robert McDowell, born in Kentucky in 1820. J. D. McDowell, born in Vermillion county in 1836, has been a life-long resident.

•

Mr. Johnson came in the same year. John R. Johnson, born in Ohio in 1833, was brought to this township in 1834, and S. Johnson was born here in 1835.

1835—Samuel Tullis, born in Virginia in 1794, resided here until his death, at Bono, October 14, 1877, a member of the Christian church. John Jenks, born in Vermont in 1804, died many years since in this township. S. Ponton, born in Virginia in 1787. John S. Ponton, born in Ohio in 1831, died a resident of the township in 1886. John Jackson, who had several sons, is deceased. Andrew Jackson, born in Ohio in 1823, was still a resident here in 1888. Joseph Jackson; James C. Burson; Isaac N. Bullington, born in Kentucky in 1807.

1836—Cephas Mack, born in Massachusetts in 1815, died April 29, 1885, in Helt township. His brother, Spencer, born in the same state, in 1818, settled here in 1838, but died many years since.

1837—Benjamin Harper, born in Virginia in 1796, died here in August, 1877. John R. Porter, born in Massachusetts in 1824, died here in 1878. James F. Barnett, Sr., born in Kentucky in 1815, after settling here became a merchant in Eugene.

1838—Henry Mitchell, blacksmith, was born in New York in 1809, died in this township in June, 1881. William M. Price, born in Maryland in 1811, was still a resident late in the eighties. W. C. and Abel Randall, from Ohio, came the same year.

1839—William Thompson, born in Kentucky in 1818, died in the spring of 1887. David D. Thompson, born in the same state in 1827, died February 1, 1880. Erastus Crane, born in Vermont in 1804, resided in Helt township from 1839 to the time of his death. Elijah and N. E. Taylor, Reuben Puffer, F. S. Aye and many more came to this township that year.

1840—Stephen Milliken, born in Pennsylvania in 1803; J. L. Powers, born in Virginia in 1803. Other very early settlers in Helt township included these: Samuel Rice, William Hays, Peter Highbie, Henry Bogart, Richard, Isaac and John Short, Carmack, etc., all of whom have long since been numbered among the dead pioneers of Vermillion county.

#### ITEMS OF INTEREST

The first white child born in Helt township was Hon. William Skidmore, in 1819; and it is still an unsettled question whether he or John Van-nest, Jr., of Clinton township, was the first child born in Vermillion county.

The earliest church building in this township was the Salem church, on Helt's prairie, erected in 1848.

The first school taught on this prairie was prior to 1830.

The first mill in Helt township was built upon the bank of Coal branch, a small stream that takes its rise in the central part of the township and flows southwest. This mill was built by William Anderson in 1836, but was abandoned more than a third of a century ago, and the stream that once furnished the water power to propel its machinery now looks as though it would have been impossible to have furnished sufficient power to run the machinery.

The old Davis ferry, at Opedee, three and a half miles below Newport, was a famous place in early days, as it was the favorite place in early times, for crossing the Wabash river, for those who were traveling north, the second bottoms on the west side of the river affording much better wagon roads than the east side. It was by this route that much of the teaming was done to Chicago, before canal and railroad days.

#### FAMOUS FOX HUNTS.

The first fox hunt of which there now seems to be any record in Vermillion county was that held March 31, 1883, when the citizens placed themselves, according to a pre-arranged plan, in a kind of a circle around a large section of territory, mostly in Helt township. At 9:30 in the forenoon they started forward. All the marshals exercised due diligence to keep the men in proper shape, none of whom were allowed to be intoxicated or to carry a gun or have a dog with them. The east and north divisions, having to travel over a very broken, hilly section of country, and some of the men also disobeying orders, permitted eight fine foxes to escape. At eleven-thirty o'clock men and boys could be seen in every direction, about eight hundred strong, approaching the center, and it was also observed at this moment that three red foxes were surrounded. Forming into a ring about forty yards in diameter on the meadow near the Conley school house, three of the most active young men entered the ring to capture the game by their unassisted hands. One fox, which was crippled in trying to pass out, was soon caught; but the other two were chased for some time, when finally one of them broke the line where some women were standing and got away. The remaining one, after being chased for some time by different ones, was finally caught by one Fred Ford. William Darnell was called for, who at auction sold the two foxes to the highest bidder, Richard Wimsett, of Opedee. Every person present greatly enjoyed the day's sport. Having seen where they erred in letting so many foxes away, they concluded March 15th, the next year, to try it again, on a larger scale, but failed to capture a single fox, and made

up their minds that there were no more foxes left in the territory to catch. They encircled parts of Helt and Vermillion townships.

Helt township has an area of seventy-two square miles, twelve more than any township in Vermillion county. In 1880 its population was 3,027 and its personal property was valued at \$1,411,745. In 1910 its population was 3,543, including Dana with 748 population. The assessed value of all personal and real estate property within the township in 1911 was, according to the county records, \$3,202,720, and Dana with \$486,395.

The rural development of Helt township is beyond anything within the county. Its broad acres of prairie lands now present one grand panorama of agricultural scenes. The farm buildings are modern and well kept up. The land is rich and well tilled by the thrifty farmers, a majority of whom live on and work their own places. Stock and poultry and fruit are seen on every hand. Many of the early settlers were of the Society of Friends and their descendants have kept pace with the progress of the age, and besides carrying out the frugal methods of life inherited from their sturdy ancestors, they have also followed on in the march of civilization and progress. To be the possessor of a farm in this goodly section of Hoosierdom is to be known as an independent man.

The gravel highways and the excellent system of public schools found within the borders of this township bespeak well for its thrift and enterprising citizenship. The Helt township consolidated school, mentioned in the Educational chapter in this work, is one of the monuments of good sense and advancement to the people of this township. It was years ago known by the state authorities as a "model consolidated school." The changes wrought out in this township since the days of 1818, nearly a hundred years ago, are indeed wonderful to contemplate. Today the farmer has his improved machinery, his daily mail brought to his very door, his telephone with which to send a speedy message to the doctor, or to his friend and neighbor; also he may ride in closed storm-buggies and automobiles. He may phone to the village and have the rural postal carrier bring to his farm house a parcel by the recently established parcel post system. These and many others are included in the great improvements to be enjoyed in these the opening years of the second decade of the twentieth century.

The towns and villages of Helt township are quite numerous, but none, aside from Dana, are of any considerable size.



## TORONTO.

This is the name of an old postoffice at the village called Bono in the southwestern part of this township. The village was started in 1848, by Tilly Jenks and a few more, and at a time when the site was covered with a thick growth of timber and underbrush. The first store was established by James Bacon, between 1850 and 1860. In the spring of 1863, Edward English established a grocery store, selling out in August of the same year to Francis M. Austin, who as late as 1887 was running at that point a good-sized general store. John F. Hays was also in trade there at that time. While the place was never laid out or platted, it had most of the elements of a village proper, save the organization formality. In 1885 it had a population of about eighty persons, with one physician, three churches (Presbyterian, Baptist and Methodist), one church building, a school house, blacksmith shop and a post of the Grand Army of the Republic. The present population is only about seventy-five. The postoffice was established here in 1871, with Francis M. Austin as postmaster, and he held the office many years. Bono was a postoffice established before Toronto was, and it was located a mile and a half to the north, and was discontinued on account of there being another by the same name in Indiana.

## JONESTOWN, NOW ST. BERNICE.

What was originally styled Jones, but changes to Jonestown, on account of another by that name in this state, was situated in the southwestern part of Helt township, and was named for Philip Jones, who owned a portion of the land on which it stood. It was laid out in Civil war days about 1862, by Jones & Wellman. A log cabin was upon the site, and also a better dwelling, erected by Dr. Grimes the previous year. The pioneer store was opened by John Ammerman. In the eighties, about twenty-five years ago, there were two general stores, one drug store, a grocery store, a flouring-mill, built in 1879, a blacksmith shop, a carpenter and cabinet-maker, a post of the Grand Army of the Republic, a brick schoolhouse, a United Brethren church, one physician, a justice of the peace, a constable, and a postoffice, named St. Bernice, there being another Jonestown in the state. The office was established in 1863, with Dr. Wilson Grimes as postmaster. St. Bernice has now a population of about one hundred and fifty, or did have in 1912 when the last census was taken. It is a station on the Chicago, Terre Haute & Southeastern railroad.

## HILLSDALE.

This is a beautifully situated little hamlet on the west bank of the Wabash river, at the extreme eastern end of the township, and is the crossing point of the two railroads, the Chicago & Eastern Illinois and the Cincinnati, Hamilton & Dayton (now B. & O. system). Hillsdale is located in section 2, township 15, range 9 west, and was laid out in 1873 by F. Montgomery. The first house was erected by Hart Montgomery, and during the same year he and his son established the first store, it being a general merchandise stock. A saloon came in next and the business of liquor selling has been a perpetual curse to the town from that day to this. Levi Bonebrake built the third house in the village. At one time there was a union depot for the two roads, but several years ago one was provided for each railroad, and the improved block system of switches was put in to insure safety in train service. The business interests have always been at the foot of the hill, near the two railroads, while the town's residences are nicely situated on the hill, or really the third bench from the river, the railroads occupying the second bench. The view from the heights is indeed splendid. There one finds numerous good dwellings, a neat church and school house. Just south from Hillsdale, proper, is what was once known as Alta. It is on the south side of Little Raccoon creek. The two villages are now known as one. The population, in 1912, is about two hundred and seventy-five. The unwritten history of this village would, if truly depicted, be of more interest than that which is known to the public. Here many scenes of good and ill deeds have been enacted in the passing of the decades since the place had a name. Some might well be remembered and perpetuated, while many another transaction had better be forever buried in the shades of deep oblivion.

In the autumn of 1912 there were the following business houses in Hillsdale: One drug store, three general stores, a grocery and meat shop, the postoffice, barber shop, millinery store, an exclusive grocery, two or more restaurants, a hotel, three boarding houses, etc. The Methodist Episcopal church was erected of cement blocks in 1904, and is a fine structure, standing on the high hill overlooking the valley. Here has resided for a half century pioneer John Wesley Casebeer, father of Dr. Casebeer, of Newport. After a wedded life of fifty-seven years, Mrs. Casebeer laid down the burdens of life a year or so ago. The influence exerted upon the village by this worthy couple has been great. Both have been constant and loyal workers in the Methodist Episcopal church.

At this point mineral resources are good, consisting of coal, building stone and excellent fire-clay. A mile to the north, at West Montezuma, is a large fire-brick factory, built in the early seventies and still doing an excellent and extensive business. It was originally built by Messrs. Burns, Porter & Collett. To the south of Hillsdale are other important clay industries. There is the National Tile and Drain Works, an immense plant making millions of brick and tile annually.

The church, lodge and school history of this part of the county is treated under regular chapter headings on these topics.

#### HIGHLAND.

What was known at a very early day as Highland was a hamlet one mile to the north of Hillsdale, and at one time had a population of one hundred and fifty. It was one of the oldest trading points in Vermillion county, having been in pioneer stage-coach days a station on the route from Lafayette to Terre Haute. It had a postoffice for many years, but when Hillsdale sprung into existence, by reason of the railroads, the postal business and office was transferred to the last named place, the name of the postoffice also being then changed.

#### SUMMIT GROVE.

This is a hamlet situated in Helt township, on the northwest quarter of section 26, and the northeast quarter of section 27, township 15, range 9 west. It was surveyed by A. Fitch, March 14, 1871. It now has a population of about eighty. It is a small station on the line of the Chicago & Eastern Illinois railroad. Here the first house was built by A. H. Depuy, in the early spring of 1872. The next was a residence for N. T. Leiton, built the same year. The first blacksmith shop was opened by Otho Chambers. In 1872 William Skidmore built his warehouse at this point, and it burned the same year, when another was erected by Leiton & Depuy. There is nothing of much commercial importance at Summit Grove.

#### THE TOWN OF DANA.

Dana, Cayuga and Newport all rank about the same in size and commercial importance in Vermillion county. The population in 1910 was, Cayuga, 832; Dana, 748, and Newport, 732. In Dana, perhaps, there is a little more of the true spirit of modern enterprise exhibited than in the other two towns named.

Geographically, Dana is situated two and a half miles east of the Illinois-Indiana state line, in Helt township. The records show that it was platted in section 26, township 16, range 10 west, by Samuel and J. B. Aikman, Samuel B. Kaufman and H. B. Hammond, the date being August 18, 1874. It is also known that Samuel Aikman donated a half interest in forty acres of land, John B. Aikman a half interest in twenty acres, and Mr. Kaufman a half interest in twenty acres. Besides this, these gentlemen donated one thousand five hundred dollars in cash. The land thus donated became the town plat.

Dana was the result of the construction of the railroad then known as the Indianapolis, Decatur & Springfield company, which later was known by various titles, and until 1912 was called the Cincinnati, Hamilton & Dayton railroad, now the property of the Baltimore & Ohio company.

The first building was erected on the new town plat in 1875, a frame structure by W. M. Taylor, in which he kept a general store and the post-office. In a former description of Dana written in 1886, we find these words: "Dana is the most rapidly growing town in Vermillion county, comprising a shrewd and enterprising class of business men, and surrounded by an unusually good agricultural country."

The town was incorporated in January, 1886. The first officers were: John Linn, president; D. W. Finney and W. T. Davis, trustees; H. Wells, clerk; J. E. Bilsland, treasurer, and John Malone, marshal. At present the town officers are as follows: The board is made up of the president, B. F. Collier; members, H. L. Fillinger, J. M. White, G. F. Green, A. H. Nicholes; Sanford Taylor, clerk and treasurer; Richard Russell, marshal; school board, Oscar A. Adams, Bert Thompson, Dr. D. W. Jones.

In 1906-07 an electric light plant was installed, at a cost of \$7,875, and it was burned in 1911, the insurance collected and a new plant built. Bonds were issued for this improvement running ten years, and now the town owes \$5,000 on its outstanding bonds, which are payable one thousand dollars annually.

In 1912 a system of sewage was completed which consists of a twenty-four-inch tiling drain from the heart of town west six thousand feet, to a point along the railroad tracks where it empties into a large ditch. Its fall in this mile and a half is about eighteen feet. The expense of this recent improvement in Dana was about \$5,610, of which \$2,083 is yet unpaid. It is assessed up against the lot owners of the corporation, and they alone will be allowed to use the same.

The town hall of Dana is on Front street, built in 1900 at a cost of about



\$1,400. The first floor is used for an engine house and the upper story for council rooms, etc. A town jail is in connection with this building. The fire company of Dana is a volunteer one, headed by Chief Albert Brooks. There are few fires in Dana. There are no public wells or cisterns, things greatly needed; however, they will soon be provided.

#### 1912 BUSINESS INTERESTS.

In the month of December, 1912, the following were the business interests of the enterprising, clean and thriving town of Dana:

Attorneys—George D. Sunkel, J. P. York, Frank Smith, Ed. B. James.

Banking—The First National Bank, and the State Bank of Dana.

Barber Shops—Lewis Brothers and H. N. Wheeler.

Blacksmiths—Charles Hutson, Carl Van Duyn, Lowrey & Mahan.

Coal Dealer—L. O. Osmon.

Dentist—W. M. Jones, D. D. S.

Dry Goods—William Rhoades & Son, Dar Andrews.

Department Store—M. F. Collier.

Dray Line—Nichols & Wallace.

Draper Acetylene Light Gas Machine Manufacturing Company.

Furniture—John W. Redman.

Groceries—Messrs. Gudgel, Collier, Thomas Clark and B. F. Long.

Grain—W. F. Gilbert & Son.

Garage—Charles Cooper.

Harness—Stanton Nichols, J. C. Hardy.

Hotel—Dana House, Thomas Smith.

Hardware—J. B. Fillinger & Son, J. C. Hardy, James Reed and Tomie Brothers.

Jewelry—R. H. Manzey.

Lumber—R. W. Rowley & Son.

Livery—Messrs. Crawford, Gass, Thomas and Judd.

Millinery—Hattie Brown, Minnie Eaton.

Moving Pictures—Claude Malone.

Meat Market—J. G. Davis.

Newspaper—*The News*, by John Jordan.

Physicians—Drs. O. M. Keyes, Daniel S. Strong, G. C. Prichett, W. C. Myers.

Photographer—W. A. Smith

Theater—The Opera Hall, by Tomie Brothers.

Veterinaries—John Gass and two others.

## CHAPTER XXIII.

### HIGHLAND TOWNSHIP.

Highland is the extreme northern sub-division of Vermillion county. Its northern boundary is the line between Vermillion and Warren county. To the east is the Wabash river, marking the line between Vermillion and Parke counties. This, like the other four townships of this county, extends from the eastern to the western side of Vermillion county. It contains sixty square miles. In 1880 this township had a population of 2,433, and an assessed valuation of personal property amounting to \$1,400,000. The United States census for 1910 gives the township a population of 1,845. In 1911 the county records show that there was an assessed valuation of \$2,465,000 in this township.

Perrysville, Rileysburg and Gessie are small towns and villages within this civil township. The "Big Four" railroad passes through the northwestern corner of Highland township. A further account of the towns and villages appears elsewhere in this chapter.

The date of arrival of the pioneers to this part of Vermillion county is indicated by the years at the head of the following paragraphs:

1822—G. S. Hansicker, born in Virginia in 1792, died here about 1885. His son, H. C. Hansicker, was born in this county in 1832. George Hicks, a soldier of the Revolutionary war, was (some say) a pioneer in this township, but possibly this is an error; he may have served in the war of 1812, for there is an account of George W. Hicks, a native of Massachusetts, born 1795, and who died here in 1878. Another settler of about 1822 was Jacob Hain, of Pennsylvania, born in 1799, and died in this county.

1823—David Goff, born in Connecticut in 1799, remained a resident here until his death, September 7, 1881. His brother Almond died here about 1867, and another brother, Brainard, moved to Laporte, Indiana, where he died. His son Philander, born in 1834 in this township, was still a resident here in the eighties. Another settler that year was Lemon Chenowith, who for many years resided at Perrysville, this township.

1824—John Chenowith settled on the Wabash, died in 1857. He was the father of Lemon, just mentioned, and also of Hiram, an older son.

Thomas Chenowith was a member of the constitutional convention in 1850, and Isaac Chenowith was state senator in 1844-45. Isaac was born in Kentucky in 1794, arrived here in March, 1825, and died in April, 1856. William Chenowith, born in Ohio in 1823, was brought here in 1832 and always resided in this county. Solomon M. Jones, born in Tennessee in April, 1812, died March 15, 1887, leaving a family of ten children. He was a soldier in the Black Hawk war. John N. Jones, Sr., was born in September, 1809, came here at a very early date, was a partner of J. F. Smith in milling and merchandising business for many years, and died here in June, 1874. William Skinner, from Ohio, came in 1824, and died a few years later. His son Norman was born in Ohio in 1816, and died here about 1880. Thomas Wright, who it is said brought the first hogs into Vermillion county, was a settler that year, also. One of his oxen dying, he cultivated his first crop of corn with a single ox. Milton Wright was born here in 1832. Both he and his brother Stephen were the sons of Thomas Wright.

1825—John Fultz, above Perrysville, settled here and died many years later. His sons were John, Andrew and William V., all long since deceased. Also Allen Rodgers, from New Hampshire, died in Iowa or Wisconsin many years ago. J. M. Rodgers, his son, born in New Hampshire in 1815, died here in the spring of 1887.

1826—James Blair, who had first settled in Eugene township, died at Perrysville, May 11, 1861, aged seventy-nine years. Robert D. Moffatt, born in New Jersey in 1812, for many years a merchant at Perrysville, at which place he retired in 1874. David Beauchamp, in range 10, had a large family and died about 1873. John W. Beauchamp was born in Ohio in 1821; Andrew, his brother, born in 1828 in this county, removed to Illinois. Hiram Shaw, born in Ohio in 1805; E. G. Shaw, born in this county in 1830, was still living in 1887.

1827—Benjamin Whittenmyer, born in Pennsylvania in 1799, died in 1879. The parents of Harvey Hunt, who was born in Indiana in 1820, was an old pioneer and a most excellent citizen. William Fleshman also was a settler of 1827. His son Amos, still living in 1888, was born in Indiana in 1822.

1828—Jonas Metzger, a soldier of the war of 1812, from Ohio, died here February 9, 1872, aged seventy-eight years. He first located in Eugene township, and in Highland in 1833. Constantine Hughes, from Virginia. His son Ehud, born in Virginia in 1817, was still living here in 1888. Israel, William and John Hughes were pioneers of Coal Branch country.

1829—William Nichols, born in Virginia in 1809, was still residing here

in 1887. Moses, Charles and Daniel Bowman, from Virginia. Daniel remained here until his death and Charles died in the West. J. S. Stutler, born in Ohio, settled here and died in this township. Ezekiel Sanders, born in Virginia in 1827, died July 10, 1875. He first settled in Eugene township, and later moved to Highland.

1830—Richard Shute, father of Daniel, John and Ephraim, settled this year in Highland township. Elisha N. Reynolds, born in Maryland in 1804, died in this township in the eighties. G. H. Reynolds, born in 1835, was an old and honored resident of this township in 1887. John Tate, born in Ohio in 1807, survived until the nineties. Thomas J. Mitchell, born in Ohio in 1808, resided many years at Perrysville. James A. Prather, born in Kentucky in 1814, died here in 1886. Another settler of 1830 was Joseph Briner, of Perrysville.

1831—Herbert Ferguson, born in Virginia in September, 1790, died here January 26, 1877. Ephraim Betzer, from Ohio, came in previous to 1831. Jacob Betzer was born in 1805 in Ohio, died about 1883. Aaron Betzer moved to the far West.

1832—Captain Andrew Dennis, a boatman, born in New Jersey in 1801, died in Danville, Illinois, in the early eighties. John Hoobler, a United Brethren minister, born in Pennsylvania in 1801, died in Illinois. William Trooper, born in Kentucky in 1808, died in this township in December, 1886. Nehemiah Cossey, from Maryland, came first to Parke county and in 1832 to this county; died long ago. His son Peter, born in that state in 1812, is also deceased. Fielding Rabburn, born in Kentucky in 1815, died here in the eighties. William H. Carithers from Ohio, long since died in this township; he was the father of Jonathan, Frank and Henry, all living in the county in 1887. William Callihan, a potter by trade, moved from Ohio, settled here and later removed to Danville. M. B. Carter, who was county recorder in 1887 in this county, was born in 1832.

1833—J. F. Will, William P., Thomas H., G. H. and David Smith, from Virginia, all became settlers this year. Thomas Gouty came 1832 or 1833, died June 10, 1863, aged sixty-one years. His son Elias was born in this township in 1833. Henry Gouty may have settled in the township two or three years later; he died in 1864. David Gouty was the son of Henry and Rebecca Gouty. John S. Kilpatrick, a miller, born in Kentucky in 1812, lived at Gessie for a time, and moved to Danville, where he died. Norman Cade died soon after his arrival in the township. His son David later removed from this county. Jacob Givens, born in Virginia in 1815, died in this township. The same year came James Hansen, father of Smith Hansen



1834—Jacob Rudy, born in Switzerland in 1818, died here in the early eighties. Martin Rudy, his father, died here several years afterward. Others who came in that year were Peter Switzer; his son Wesley, born in Ohio in 1821, was still an honored resident in 1888.

1835—Thomas Moore, who died in 1843, was the father of Joseph and Washington. T. H. Harrison, born in Virginia in 1810, was still a resident of this township in the late eighties.

1836—John R. and George H. McNeill, from Maryland, the former born in 1811 and the latter in 1818. Lewis and John Butler, from Ohio, the former born in 1813, and the latter in 1816; Lewis was deceased in 1886, when John was still living in Vermillion township. Elijah Roseberry, who died in 1857, aged fifty-one years. Thomas Cushman, born in New York in 1814, was living at Newport in 1887; he had served as county auditor.

1837—James J. Lewis, born in Maryland in 1805, still residing in this township in the late eighties. He was the father of J. A. Lewis and Joshua Lewis; the latter lived at Cayuga many years. Robert J. Gessie, born in Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, in 1809, was residing here in 1887. Another old citizen was Charles Chezem, born in Indiana in 1827.

1838—Walter B. Moffatt, a native of Indiana, born in 1822, died August 14, 1882. Horatio Talbert, long since deceased, was the father of Henry, born in Pennsylvania in 1816 and died in this township in the middle of the eighties. Samuel Harris, born in Virginia in 1819, moved to another section of the country.

1839—John Dunlap, deceased, born in Ireland in 1809. Others who settled that year were Samuel Swingley and Samuel Watt, from Ohio.

Other pioneers in this township were J. F. Smith, John N. Jones, merchants and millers; Joseph Cheadle, father of Joseph B., who served in Congress from this district, was born May 9, 1789, in one of the Eastern states, and died in this township June 19, 1863; William B. Palmer, who died about 1876.

It was stated in 1887 that there were but three keeping house in Highland township who were in that relation in 1833, when Thomas H. Smith settled, he being the man who made this statement. These three were Mrs. Chestie Hain, Adaline V. Jones and Mrs. Glover.

#### TOWNS AND VILLAGES OF HIGHLAND TOWNSHIP.

Perrysville was laid out in 1826, by James Blair, on a pleasing situation on the banks of the gently winding Wabash, and named by him in honor of

the commander of the Lake Erie fleet in 1812, Commodore O. H. Perry. For many years this was the largest town within the limits of Vermillion county. For a time it was ahead of Danville, Illinois—really until the present railroad system was projected. Since then it has lacked thrift, enterprise and growth. It was said thirty years ago that “the passing days are like one eternal Sabbath. Grass and weeds have overgrown the streets and the lovely shade trees continue to do their sweetest duty.” There is a station a little to the west of the old town. Among the enterprising men who were engaged in business here in the more palmy days of the town’s history may be recalled J. F. and T. H. Smith, J. N. Jones and Robert Moffatt. The old warehouses and grist-mill were used to some advantage in 1890. They were built and operated many years by Smith & Jones. Jones also built another grist-mill at the wharf, but it was burnt down many years since. March 31, 1884, occurred the largest conflagration ever experienced in the place. It entirely destroyed the three chief business blocks, two story bricks; these were the property of Smith Brothers. The fire originated in the roof of an adjoining building. By this fire the Masonic hall, with all of its valuable records and paraphernalia, was destroyed.

A few years after the close of the Civil war, the Perrysville Woolen Mills were erected in the western portion of the town by Riggs, Head & Company, who furnished the machinery mainly from Covington, Indiana, in which place they had previously operated a factory. The Perrysville factory was operated until 1881, but with only partial success. It stood idle a year or more and was then purchased by B. O. Carpenter, who converted it into a mill, having two run of stones for wheat grinding. It was an excellent flouring-mill plant, and had a capacity of about eighty barrels per day.

In an historic account of this town, written in 1886, it is learned: “H. S. Comingmore & Son’s Perrysville Stove Works, in the southern part of town, is a modern, neat establishment. It is in a brick building, erected in June, 1884. Its two wings are for foundry and finishing rooms. The firm started in business in Perrysville, in 1858, in a small frame building.”

At the time above named—about 1887—there was then running the Perrysville Creamery, on the bank of the Wabash. It had a capacity of two thousand pounds of butter per week. E. A. Lacey was secretary and superintendent, while J. F. Compton was president of the company.

Perrysville was incorporated in January, 1881, and its first officers were: First ward, William Collins; second ward, John R. McNeill; third ward, Samuel Shaner. W. M. Benfield was elected clerk; Rezin Metzger, assessor; Lewis A. Morgan, treasurer; Peter S. Moundy, marshal. In the fall of

1884 the question of whether the corporation should be continued or not was up to a vote by the citizens of the place, and resulted by a small majority in favor of letting the municipality go down. It is not now an incorporated place, but a quiet, orderly country village, where many of the older inhabitants live on the past glory of former days!

In 1910 the population of Perrysville was six hundred, and there were the usual number of stores and shops for a town of its location and size. Of the churches, schools and lodges, for which the place has ever been noted, other general chapters will treat under their appropriate headings.

#### VILLAGE OF GESSIE.

Gessie is a village on the railroad, three miles northwest of Perrysville station. It was laid out in 1872 by Robert J. Gessie and named for him. In 1887 this place had a population of one hundred and forty. The 1910 United States census bulletin gives it as having one hundred and fifty.

Dr. William Isaiah Hall, who purchased the first town lot in the place, also erected the first building. He was still practicing medicine in the place in 1888. His partner was for many years Dr. James Barnes, who afterward practiced alone in the village. Early business men were J. C. Stutler, with a general store; L. A. McKnight, general store and grain dealer; D. M. Hughes, drugs and groceries; John Cade, postmaster, drugs and groceries; A. Van Sickle, blacksmith; Silas Hughes, wagon and repair shop; C. L. Randall, painter and jobber; John Haworth, station agent; H. C. Smith & Company, proprietors of tile factory; this was built in 1884 and the first year's output of the plant was six thousand dollars' worth of tile.

Rileysburg, formerly called Riley, is a flag station two miles northwest of Gessie, where in the eighties there were already a postoffice, store and a tile factory.

## CHAPTER XXIV.

### VERMILLION TOWNSHIP.

Vermillion is the central civil township within Vermillion county, both taking their name from the Vermillion river. The county seat, Newport, is within this sub-division of the county, also the little station hamlet of Opedee. The township contains forty-five square miles. In 1880 its population was 2,215; its personal property was then valued at \$1,086,000. The census of 1910 gives the population of the township as 1,974, including the town of Newport, which was listed at 748. The total personal and realty assessed valuation of property in the township in 1911 was \$1,940,000, that in Newport being \$486,395. For an account of the towns, villages, schools, churches and lodges within Vermillion township, the reader is referred to special and general chapters on these subjects within this volume.

### PIONEER SETTLEMENT.

It is not certain who constituted the first settlers in the township now known as Vermillion. Illy kept records, the lapse of many years, and the little attention paid by former generations to making note of such things, makes it very difficult to establish beyond a doubt just who was really the first to establish a home and residence in the township. But it will suffice, for all practical purposes, to state that the first settlers included these whose names follow :

Richard and Susan (Henderson) Haworth, who, some claim, were the first couple to locate in the township, came in from Tennessee in the autumn of 1820. Mr. Haworth died in 1850, aged fifty-seven years, and his wife died in 1854, also aged fifty-seven years.

In 1821 came Joel Dicken, from Prairie Creek, Kentucky, settling where Newport now stands. His son, Benjamin K., long a resident in the vicinity, was born in 1818 and died about 1886 in either Michigan or Wisconsin.

In 1821 Joseph Eggleston, father of Attorney William Eggleston, came to this township and died after many years residence. John L. Eggleston was born in 1827 and resided in Newport.

In 1822, it is supposed that John Wimsett, of Virginia, located here.



Jacob Wimsett, born January 8, 1827, was still a highly respected citizen there in 1887. The same year came in Jacob Custar and located about one mile and a half above Newport. Philemon Thomas came that year and remained until his death in 1860. Nathan Thomas was five years old when brought to this township in 1827.

In 1823 Carter and Catherine Hollingsworth, of North Carolina, came into the township. Mrs. Hollingsworth died in 1880, aged eighty-eight years. Eber Hollingsworth, born in Union county, Indiana, in 1822, was brought to this county the next year. In 1887 he was a well-known, well-to-do farmer and stock trader, two miles west of Newport. Henry Hollingsworth, born in this state in 1830, died in the latter eighties at Newport.

In 1824 Anna, widow of William Henderson, became a resident of this county.

Adam Zener, born in Kentucky in 1803, came to Clark county, Indiana, in 1812, and in 1826 to Vermillion county, where he remained until his death, March 14, 1877; was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. Either in 1826 or the following year, came Philip W. Osmon, born in Kentucky in 1803. His son Archibald W., born 1829, became a well-known farmer ten miles southwest of Newport. Jabez B., another son, born in 1836 at Newport, was a well-known man in his day.

In 1827 came Richard Potts, who served as sheriff of this county two terms, died in 1875.

Robert Wallace, a native of Virginia, became a resident of Vermillion county and located in this township in 1828, and died at Newport May 27, 1881, aged ninety-one years. He was a man of fine physical appearance and was never sick to exceed a week during his manhood's days. William Wallace, who was born in Ohio in 1817, was about eleven years of age when he was brought to this county. He died in the eighties.

Joshua Nixon, born in Ohio in 1813, came to Newport this year and resided until his death, May 23, 1875, a faithful member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

James Asbury, born in Virginia in 1815, was another settler of about that day; also came about that time, Aaron Jones, from New Jersey, and William Jones, from Union county, Indiana. Samuel Jones, a native of Ohio, came in 1830 to this township, and died in 1881. George Brindley, a native of Kentucky, born in 1800, died in 1878, came here in 1828.

In 1829 came Robert Stokes; also Samuel Davis, of Ohio, born in 1811, was still an active citizen of Newport in 1888.

Among the settlers of this township in 1830 was Jacob Sears, who emi-

grated from North Carolina, and died in 1859, aged eighty-five years. Thomas J. Brown, a native of Kentucky, born 1801, died in this township. Ross Clark, another settler in 1830, was born in Ohio in 1797, and died here in 1878. William L. Tincher, a settler of 1830, was born in Kentucky in 1814, was living in Montezuma in the eighties. About the same date came in William W. Doss, born in Kentucky in 1817. He moved over to Montezuma. Another 1830 immigrant to the township was Robert S. Norris, from South Carolina, who died in 1877, aged seventy-three years. Other lifelong residents of this township who came in 1830, when children, were Richard and John W. Clearwater, John L. White, James H. Hutson and George Weller.

In 1831 came William Nichols, born in Virginia in 1804, died October 11, 1876. Isaac and Henry Nichols, sons of William, were brought here in an early day, lived here many years, and both died before 1887. Isaac and Mary Carmack, from Tennessee, settled in the Lebanon neighborhood. He died in 1863. Alfred, a son, born in Tennessee, January 8, 1814, died May, 1817; and Andrew, another son, settled at Dana, this county. Henry Wiltermood, born in Indiana in 1821. Charles Herbert, from Kentucky; his son, William J., born in 1819, settled and was living in 1886 on section 27 of this township. John Henderson, who came the same year last named for settlement, located on section 7.

The settlement of 1832 included these: H. F. Jackson, born in Ohio in 1798, died in Missouri. John Jackson and wife Lydia, from Ohio; the latter died in Decmeber, 1880, aged seventy-four years. Joseph Jackson, from England, died here before 1886. Ezra Clark, born in Ohio, 1811, in his later years resided in Highland. John G. Gibson, born in Ohio in 1819, lived in this township until his death. Julius Bogart, born in Tennessee in 1811, was still residing in the township in 1886. William B. Hall, who died in 1863, aged forty-two years. James A. Elder, born in Brown county, Ohio, died prior to 1886. James Remley, born in Ohio, 1823, committed suicide.

1834—John C. Johnson, born May 16, 1807, in Belmont county, Ohio, married February 24, 1833, Miss Elizabeth Shaver, a lady of superior education, and the next year located in this vicinity, arriving at the mouth of the Little Vermillion river April 8th. Here he entered a small tract of land, built a cabin and began life on what was later known as the "first bottom." In 1854 he built a new house, which he occupied until 1880, when he removed to Newport, where he died in February, 1883, after having reared an exemplary family of sons and daughters. In 1834 came also Benjamin Davis, who died in 1854, at the age of sixty-four years. His wife, whose maiden name was Rusha Sears, died in 1869, aged sixty-two years.

In 1835—John S. Bush, born in this state in 1828, was still living here in 1887, and was totally blind. William Huff, born in Kentucky in 1812, and James Duzan, born in the same state six years later, both resided at Newport in the latter part of the eighties.

1836—David Albridge, born in North Carolina in 1790, and died September 11, 1877, being at the time about the oldest citizen of Vermillion county. He served as a soldier in the war of 1812-14.

1837—Isaac Tropts, long a resident of the township, was nine years old when he came to the county in 1837.

1838—Hiram Hastey, born in Indiana in 1818, was a harness-maker at Newport, where he died. J. F. Weller, merchant at Newport, was born in Kentucky in 1818; finally moved to Petersburg, Indiana.

1839—T. W. Jackson, born in Ohio in 1816, was still residing here in 1887.

1840—Hugh Dallas came into the township some time prior to 1840, from Virginia. Abel Sexton, who in 1887 was still a prominent citizen of Newport, was a native of New York, born in 1820, and settled in this county in 1843. Other prominent factors in the settlement and development of this township may be recalled the names of Alvah Arrasmith, Thomas G. Arrasmith, wagon maker at Newport, and G. W. Clark; also David Fry, James Kaufman, Leonard Sanders, Daniel E. Jones, who became a wealthy citizen of Chicago and died there; also Major John Gardner and Henry Betson.

Col. William Craig, born in Newport in 1831, graduated at West Point Military School in 1853, having for his class-mates Generals McPherson, Sheridan and Schofield; crossed the western plains in 1854 as lieutenant and aid-de-camp on General Garland's staff; served in the regular army ten years, being one of the best Indian fighters, and greatly admired by Kit Carson and other scouts. He finally died in the Southwest in 1886.

A settler of 1840, in this township, should have more than a passing notice. We refer to Hon. Oliver P. Davis, from whose initials the village and railroad station Opedee took its name—O. P. D. And the three letters also stood for the one thousand three hundred acre farm he owned between three and four miles below Newport, the "O. P. D. Farm." Oliver P. Davis was born in New Hampshire, in 1814; learned the art of paper-making; came to Indiana in 1838, traveling by coach, steamboat, canal and horseback, through the states of New York, Ohio, Michigan and the province of Canada. In New York he rode behind the first locomotive built in that state, then running out of Albany. At Toronto, Canada, he was employed in a book-bindingery and mill, doing the work more rapidly and efficiently than any of the

native hands. In Ohio he fell in with a jolly dentist of whom he began to learn the art of dentistry, afterward practicing his new trade at Fort Wayne. After residing at Logansport and Delphi, this state, for a time, he went to Greencastle and commenced the study of law in the office of Edward W. McGoughey, read two years and then in 1840 moved to Vermillion county and began the practice of his profession, continuing for five years. After that he followed the occupations of agriculturist and tradesman. At first he purchased forty acres, to which he later made additions until he had in 1887 one thousand three hundred acres of rich Wabash bottom, whereon some times he raised immense crops of corn, occasionally fifty thousand bushels or more, and sometimes, by reason of flood or frost, he lost great crops. The sediment deposited by the Wabash floods keeps the soil very rich. During the year of the famine in Ireland, Mr. Davis took to New Orleans by flat-boat twenty-five thousand bushels of corn, some of which he bought at eighteen cents a bushel and sold it from forty-five cents to one dollar per bushel. He is said to have sold in one season eighteen thousand dollars worth of corn raised by his own hand.

Mr. Davis was also familiar with state legislation, having been a member of the constitutional convention of 1850, a member of the General Assembly three terms, a delegate to important conventions, etc. Politically, he was, at times, a Democrat, Republican, National, etc. In his religious belief he was a "free-thinker."

#### A LONG-LOST DAUGHTER.

In the month of September, 1873, Mr. and Mrs. Brennan, living a mile to the west of Newport, received a visit from their daughter, whom they thought they had lost twenty-one years before, when they left her temporarily in the care of some one at New Orleans during the dreadful siege of cholera. She had been found during the preceding summer by relatives in Ohio advertising in the *Irish Republic*, a Boston newspaper. She was then a resident of New Orleans and the mother of four children. Mr. and Mrs. Brennan, on learning their daughter was still alive and living in New Orleans, immediately decided to visit her; but before starting they received a letter from her stating that she was coming to see them. Accordingly she soon arrived at Newport, late at night, on her way, and such was her haste to see her parents that, though it was dark and rainy, she hired a team and was immediately taken out to the home of her parents, where a very exciting meeting occurred. The daughter remained until spring and the mother died a few weeks after the daughter's visit.



## QUAKER HILL SETTLEMENT.

Quaker Hill, or what is sometimes called "Quaker Point," is the name of a fine neighborhood in a romantic section of country on Jonathan creek, near the western boundary of Vermillion township. The vicinity derived its name from the fact that an unusual proportion of the settlement was effected by members of the Society of Friends, nick-named "Quakers." A postoffice was established there, at a cross-roads, at an early date. The physicians of that section, at different times, included Doctors Joseph C. Cooke, who died in 1875, John Gilmore, Hiram and Lewis Shepard and P. H. Swaim.

Newport, the county seat, is in this township, and is described in a separate chapter.





HON. ARED F. WHITE.

# BIOGRAPHICAL

---

JUDGE ARED F. WHITE.

True biography has a more noble purpose than mere fulsome eulogy. The historic spirit, faithful to the record; the discerning judgment, unmoved by prejudice and uncolored by enthusiasm, are as essential in giving the life of the individual as in writing the history of a people. Indeed, the ingenuousness of the former picture is even more vital, because the individual is the national unit, and if the unit be justly estimated the complex organism will become correspondingly intelligible. The world to-day is very largely what the leading men of the past generation have made it, and this rule must ever hold good. From the past comes the legacy of the present. Art, science, statesmanship and government are accumulations. They constitute an inheritance upon which the present generation have entered, and the advantages secured from so vast a bequeathment depend entirely upon the fidelity with which is conducted the study of the lives of the principle actors who have transmitted the legacy. This is especially true of those whose influence has passed beyond the confines of locality and permeated the larger life of the state. To such a careful study are the life, character and services of Judge Ared F. White, of Rockville, pre-eminently entitled, not only on the part of the student of biography, but also of every citizen who, guided by example, would in the present build wisely for the future. In studying a clean-cut, sane, distinct character like his, interpretation follows fact in a straight line of derivation. There is small use for indirection or puzzling. His character is the positive expression of a strong nature, and he is distinctly one of the notable men of his day and generation and as such is entitled to a conspicuous place in the annals of his city, county and state, for here his life has been spent and his energies directed toward the general progress of his fellows, both as a private citizen and a public servant. The biography of such a man as he may well serve for an example and inspiration to youth who seriously meditate life, yet hesitate to lay the foundation for the stern realities of the every day battles that await them. He is a fine type of the virile, self-made American, having begun his career under no favorable auspices, but, with a persistence



as rare as it was admirable, he adhered to his purpose and in due course of time achieved notable success, the inhospitable environments of his youth not being without their compensations. The usual and persistent effort required to obtain liberal qualifications for professional pursuits, in spite of adverse surroundings, develop and strengthen the mind as labor hardens and renders flexible the muscles. Not satisfied with existing conditions, he decided to rise above them, and to this end he lost sight of every other consideration or made it subordinate to the one goal he had in view. Every step in his progress has been due to matured plans and well defined purposes. By his courage and energy he climbed steadily and persistently and stood firmly upon each rung of the ladder until he could reach the next above and plant himself securely thereon. When a young man he selected the law as his life work, and determined, regardless of hindrance, to master the principles of his profession and rise above mediocrity, instead of being satisfied with a mere superficial knowledge, such as many professional men under similar circumstances are content to acquire. Whatever success he achieved during his active, long and strenuous career was due to careful preparation, a high sense of justice, candor as a counselor, a religious regard for the truth, and courteous demeanor and gentlemanly conduct in all relations with his fellow men. As a practitioner or during his long and notable service on the bench no charge or suspicion of any wrong doing ever tarnished his name or marred his official record; his personal honor was never compromised and his private life has ever been wholesome and free from fault. His friendships are warm, steadfast and never, without the best cause, are they interrupted or broken, while his sterling worth makes him a power for good among all with whom he comes in contact.

Judge White was born in Rockville, Parke county, Indiana, May 27, 1843, and is a son of Johnson S. and Hannah (Jones) White. The father was born in northern Ohio, and the mother's birth occurred in Clermont county, Ohio. Johnson S. White learned the blacksmith's trade when a young man, at which he worked during most of his active life, also became proprietor of a saw-mill and lumber yard and finally farmed to some extent. He removed to Parke county, Indiana, about 1838 or 1839 and here established the permanent home of the family and became well and favorably known to the early settlers in this section of the Wabash country. For some time he was engineer on a steamboat called the "Spy," which plied the Wabash river. Giving up that position, he went to the town of Montezuma and engaged in blacksmithing and was living there when he married. Moving from

there, he located where old Bloomingdale stood, continuing his trade two years, then came to Rockville, continuing this line of endeavor until 1855, when he turned his attention to agricultural pursuits, moving to his farm about three miles south of that town, carrying on his trade in connection with farming until he bought a saw-mill in that neighborhood, which he conducted with much success until about 1874 or 1875. He then moved to Rockville where he spent the residue of his years, his death occurring in 1878, having been preceded to the grave by his wife in July, 1868. He was widely known as the most skilled blacksmith in this locality and his customers came from all over the country. He had the distinction of making the first wagon that crossed the plains to the Pacific coast during the gold fever days of the latter forties.

To Johnson S. White and wife were born seven children, named in order of birth as follows: Charles N., of Marshall, Parke county; Mary Frances died in infancy; Ared F., subject of this review; Martha E., who married Robert C. McDivitt, and who died in 1912; William J., who is vice-president of Parke State Bank at Rockville; Mary Elizabeth, who is the wife of Clinton Murphy, of Rockville; Frank C., who is vice-president, secretary and treasurer of the German-American Fruit Company, of Terre Haute, Indiana.

Ared F. White received his primary education in the public schools of Rockville and in the rural schools south of town. When a young man, before reaching his majority, he entered his father's blacksmith shop and learned the trade, at which he worked for two years; then became fireman and engineer for his father in the saw-mill business, finally becoming head sawyer, which position he filled for a period of five years. Having an insatiable desire for an education of a higher education, he entered Ashbury (now De-Pauw) University at Greencastle, Indiana, where he made a splendid record and from which institution he was graduated with the class of 1867, having finished the scientific course. During his senior year he read law in the office of John Hanna, of Greencastle, and after his graduation pursued his studies with John McLaughlin, of Rockville, with whom he formed a partnership late in the year 1867, having made rapid progress with Blackstone, Kent and other legal authorities. This alliance was for the practice of law and it continued until the following March, when Mr. McLaughlin removed to Minnesota. Judge White has been a leader of the local bar ever since, his success ever growing until he built up a large and lucrative practice and became one of the most noted and able lawyers of western Indiana, figuring prominently in important cases in local courts for many years. He was in partnership with

Elwood Hunt for a number of years, or until 1886, at which time he was honored by the people by being elected judge of the forty-seventh judicial circuit, embracing Parke and Vermillion counties, and was on the bench for a period of eighteen years, his long retention being criterion enough to indicate his high standing in these counties and of the trust and confidence reposed in him by the people, serving three full terms in a most able and conscientious manner. He came to the bench well qualified for its exacting duties and responsibilities and from the beginning his judicial career was characterized by such a profound knowledge of the law and an earnest and conscientious desire to apply it impartially that he was not long in gaining the respect and confidence of the attorneys and litigants and earning for himself an honorable reputation among the leading jurists of the state. From the first his labors were very arduous, as many important cases were tried in his court, not a few coming to him by change of venue; in addition to which he was also called to other circuits to sit on cases in which large interests were involved. So far as known, his rulings were ever without bias, characterized by their uniform fairness and impartiality, with a display of a profound knowledge of the various phases of jurisprudence and his decisions in all cases were eminently satisfactory, and so in accord with the basic principles of law and practice that everybody interested was thoroughly satisfied with his course. It is safe to say that no one ever wore the judicial ermine with more becoming dignity or was more worthy of the same in the annals of the Hoosier state than he.

After the expiration of his term of office Judge White resumed the practice of his profession in Rockville in partnership with his son, J. S. White, with offices over the Parke State Bank, and continues a leader of the bar in this and adjoining counties, his services having ever been in great demand in important cases. Being ever a student, he has kept well abreast of the times in new rulings, decisions, change of statute and, in fact, all matters pertaining to his profession.

For a period of five years the Judge was school examiner, and was president of the Rockville school board for a period of nine years, during which there was a great improvement noted in the local educational system, he having been largely responsible for the adoption of a regular course of study and the division of the school year into regular terms, also by the graduation of classes and awarding of diplomas. Politically, he has always been loyal to the Republican party and a local leader in the counsels of the same. He had the honor of being presidential elector in 1880 from the eighth congressional district.

Fraternally, Judge White is a member of the Knights of Pythias, and the Hoosier Literary Club of Rockville, of which he has long been one of the principal lights. He united with the Methodist Episcopal church when a boy under the ministry of Rev. John Edwards.

During the Civil war the subject proved his courage and his patriotism by enlisting in Company C, Seventy-eighth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, in 1862. In 1864 he became corporal of Company G, One Hundred and Thirty-third Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and was a member of a color guard of the latter regiment. According to his comrades, he proved to be a most gallant and faithful soldier for the Union, and he received an honorable discharge. He has been a student of military affairs all his life and is one of the best posted men on military subjects in the state.

Judge White was married on October 21, 1869, to Sarah Catherine Strouse, a lady of culture and refinement and a representative of an excellent old family, well and favorably known at Rockville, she being the daughter of Samuel and Mary F. (Baker) Strouse. Her father was born in Bavaria, Germany, and her mother was born in Parke county, Indiana. Mrs. White was born in Rockville and there grew to womanhood and received her early education. The union of the Judge and wife has been blessed by the birth of the following children: Fannie S., Nellie D., Jacob S., who is a prominent young lawyer, practicing with his father in Rockville, and Helen M., wife of Walter C. Mand, of Terre Haute, Indiana.

As already intimated, the Judge has ever kept in touch with the interests of his city and county and is an ardent advocate and liberal patron of all worthy enterprises making for their advancement and prosperity. His activity in behalf of every movement for the good of his fellow citizens has endeared him to the people among whom the greater part of his life has been spent, and his popularity is bounded only by the limits of his acquaintance, being widely known as a progressive citizen, profound student, gifted orator, learned jurist and polished gentleman.

In closing this biography we desire to give a further estimate of Judge White by quoting the following lines from an article which appeared some time ago in a newspaper of the Judge's home county, which will show the appreciation in which he is held there:

"Judge Ared F. White is one of the few men about whom it is easy to say something at once truthful and pleasant. From his boyhood he has occupied a position distinguished among his contemporaries. A fine manly bearing, a particular aptitude in certain branches of study and a marked talent



for oratory, even in his childhood days attracted the attention of a community then more than now alert for signs of talent in the rising generation. Although the parents of Judge White were not, in the common acceptance of the term, highly educated people, we have been told by those who knew them that they were possessed in a remarkable degree of that plain, common sense, that insight into real life, that scorn of affectation and display that was the leading characteristic of many of the sturdy self-respecting American people of their day.

"All who can recall the fine face of Johnson S. White will remember that peculiar stamp of integrity which it bore, and the look of sagacity and human understanding that one caught occasionally from his deep-set eyes. The father knew his son had talent, knew it without the fatuous vanity that leads some men to spend money on their sons. So he gave him the college education the boy coveted and his friends advised. He fulfilled his father's highest ambition.

"We hear a great deal in these days of versatility about the all-around man, and Judge White answers to this description. Standing at the head of his profession, he is still devoid of the one-sidedness that often distinguishes men who have given their lives to the study of a profession. Judge White is a man of strong literary tastes, and he can now indulge in literary pursuits as a pastime or relaxation from the strenuous duties of life, as he does at short intervals to the delight of his friends. Perfectly at home on platform or rostrum, charming in the company of a few boon companions, he may be said to lack the faculty of letting his light shine promiscuously."

---

#### HON. BARTON SCOTT AIKMAN.

It is a well authenticated fact that success comes not as the caprice of chance, but as the legitimate result of well applied energy, unflagging determination and perseverance in a course of action once decided upon by the individual. Only those who diligently seek the goddess Fortuna find her—she never was known to smile upon the idler or dreamer. The gentleman whose name forms the caption of this biographical sketch clearly understood this fact early in life, so he did not seek any royal road to success, but sought to direct his feet along the well-beaten paths of those who had won in the battle of life along legitimate lines. He had their careers in mind when

casting about for a legitimate line to follow, and in tracing his life history it is plainly seen that the prosperity and popularity which Mr. Aikman enjoys has been won by commendable qualities, and it is also his personal worth which has gained for him the high standing in Vermillion and adjoining counties, in which he has long been well known, influential and highly esteemed.

Before proceeding with the specific biography of the Hon. Barton S. Aikman, it is deemed advisable to go into the history of this prominent old family at some length. The surname Aikman is of great antiquity in Scotland. Its origin goes back to the time of Macbeth, in the year 1050, or nearly one thousand years ago. It seems that the name was first borne by the commander of the troops that attacked the usurper, Macbeth, before his castle, Dunsinane. It is believed that Shakespeare's "Macbeth" was written from the story of this episode, which is contained in the first history of Scotland. Macbeth murdered Duncan, the king, and seized the throne himself, which he held for some sixteen years. In order to make himself secure he selected the commanding hill of Dunsinane, near the woods of Birnam. Here he built a strong castle. Malcolm, the son of the murdered king, decided to recover his father's throne. He enlisted the aid of Edward, king of England, hiring ten thousand troops from him, and advanced against Macbeth. When the Birnam woods were reached the invading soldiers each secured a large oak bough which they held in front of them in advancing on the castle. In the battle that ensued Macbeth's troops were defeated and he was slain. So, adopting the tradition which Sir Robert Douglas, Scotland's first historian, gives, it would appear that King Malcolm or the commander to whom the attack was committed was the first Aikman. Whoever he was, the success of the stratagem of the Birnam oak woods gave him his surname, Oakman or Aikman. From him all the Aikmans are said to have descended. Douglas, in the history already referred to, says that Alexander de Aikman was compelled to submit to King Edward I of England, when he overran Scotland in the year 1296. He adds, "The ancestors of the family appear to have been free barons, and to have settled in the country of Forfar several centuries ago." It is a noteworthy fact that Aikmans are now, as they have been for seven or eight centuries or more, residing still in Forfarshire. Representatives of the immediate family of the subject of this sketch are still residing in the locality in Scotland mentioned above, whence his forebears came more than a century and a quarter ago. Books of heraldry speak of the Aikman coat-of-arms as one of the oldest in Scotland.

For centuries the Aikmans have been ruling elders in the Presbyterian

church, including the famous Pearl Street Presbyterian church in New York City.

Of the Aikman family that concerns this historical publication most specifically, we first hear of John and Mary (Barr) Aikman, the former born on April 15, 1787, both natives of Virginia or Kentucky. They were married June 14, 1804, while living in Kentucky, and the following children were born to them: Barton Stone Aikman, father of Hon. Barton Scott Aikman, the immediate subject of this review, was born October 17, 1805; Sicily Aikman, born December 11, 1808; James Aikman, born January 7, 1810. With these three children, John Aikman and wife moved from Bourbon county, Kentucky, to Daviess county, Indiana, in 1811, and there were born to them in Daviess county the following children: Hugh Aikman, the first white child born in Daviess county, born March 12, 1812; Samuel Aikman, born February 28, 1814; John B. Aikman, born January 15, 1816; Thomas Aikman, born May 5, 1818; Elizabeth Aikman, born January 3, 1821; Mariah Aikman, born November 23, 1822; Mary Aikman, born May 1, 1825; Robert Aikman, born June 1, 1827; William M. Aikman, born March 27, 1830, and Martha Aikman, born October 7, 1832.

Barton Stone Aikman, the eldest of these children, came from Daviess county to Vermillion county, Indiana, in about the year 1827, and here began life in typical pioneer fashion, the country being wild and very sparsely settled. He was married to Jane Rhoades, October 17, 1827, the day he was twenty-two years of age. There were born to this union the following children: John, Mary, Elizabeth, William, Silas, Mariah, Robert and James. They are all deceased except Mariah and Robert. After the death of his first wife, Barton Stone Aikman married Mary Jane Amerman on March 10, 1846. She was born in Indiana, November 18, 1824. To this second union nine children were born, namely: Peter is a retired farmer, living in Dana, Indiana; Thomas went west when a boy, became a minister in the Methodist church in Nebraska, and he is now deceased; Hugh is engaged in the general merchandise business at Montezuma, Parke county, this state; Franklin is also a Methodist minister and lives at Crawfordsville, Indiana; Margaret died in infancy; Edgar, deceased, was a practicing physician at Clinton, Indiana; Samuel is a Presbyterian minister and lives in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Henry is a grain dealer at West St. Bernice, Vermillion county; Barton Scott, subject of this sketch, is the youngest of the family. The parents of the above named children are both deceased.

Of the present whereabouts of the brothers and sisters of Barton Stone Aikman, father of the subject, we give the following: Sicily Aikman mar-

ried a man named Robinson and moved to Daviess county, Missouri, where quite a large family of Aikmans now reside. James Aikman, now deceased, has descendants in Daviess county, Indiana, his children being Henry, John, Samuel and Martha, and Mrs. Coleman of Topeka, Kansas. Hugh Aikman's descendants are scattered over the country. Samuel Aikman was married in Daviess county, Indiana, in August, 1833, to Eliza Ann Eades, a cousin of the noted Captain Eades, and shortly afterwards settled in Vermillion county. There were born to them the following children: John, Mary, Elijah, Martha, Margaret, Lucy, Caroline, William, Levi H., Charles C., Lemuel and Adelaide. John B. Aikman died in Daviess county many years ago, and now has one grandson in Terre Haute, John B. Aikman. Thomas Aikman died when a small boy. Elizabeth Aikman married a Hawkins and moved to Greene county, Indiana. Maria Aikman married a Helphinstine, and lived in Daviess county, where her descendants are now found. Mary Aikman married Capt. Isaac McCormick, and left two daughters, Mrs. Corning, of Washington, and Mrs. Pringle, of Bloomfield, Indiana. Robert Aikman has been dead many years, and has one child living, Mrs. Charles Jones, of Washington. William M. Aikman has five children living, Walter, Helen and Laura, of Chicago; Mary, at Washington, and William at Natchez, Mississippi. Martha Aikman married a Johnson and now resides in Kansas, and she is now the only living child of John Aikman.

Barton S. Aikman and Samuel Aikman were two of the early pioneers of Vermillion county. They were brought to this county by their father, John Aikman, to find them a home, about 1830. The public records of the county show that John Aikman made the original entry of a large tract of wild prairie and timber land, which he afterward deeded to these two sons, giving them a start in life, when he returned to his old home in Daviess county. A hero of the wilds and the wilderness himself, with a father's care, love and devotion to his children, he bravely led these two sons where they followed and planted for each a home and they each began the battle of life in the primeval forest and untrodden waste of prairie. Here they battled and toiled and by their industry, frugality and perseverance builded for their posterity, not only a rich heritage of lands, but a richer heritage of devotion and nobility. Samuel died at a ripe old age, and Barton S. died in middle life. The memory of each is honored and respected, not only by a long line of descendants, but by the community in which they lived. The names of the descendants of these two Aikmans are too numerous to record in this sketch. They are all over Vermillion county and some are elsewhere.

From the wilds of Kentucky to the wilds of Indiana came Barton S.



Aikman, five years before the latter state was admitted to the Union. During the Indian wars, when his home and loved ones had to be guarded, not only against wild beasts, but against wild and savage red men, he was compelled in his early life, in what is now Daviess county, to build a fort in which to shelter his family against the ravages of Indians. In one of these forts his son Hugh was born. He was Daviess county's first school teacher, one of its first commissioners, and served on the first grand jury that met in the county. He built the first brick house in the county, in 1833, making the brick himself, tramping the mud with oxen. The old house still stands and is occupied by the blood of its builder.

Hon. Barton S. Aikman, subject of this sketch, grew to manhood in Vermillion county and received his education in the public schools of his native community, later taking the course at the Terre Haute State Normal School, from which he was graduated with the class of 1884. He began life for himself by teaching school, which he followed with much success for a period of five years. During that period he studied law, was admitted to the bar in 1886 and at once began the practice of his profession, which he has continued with ever-increasing success until the present time at Newport, enjoying a large and lucrative practice, figuring prominently in important cases in the local courts and taking a position in the front rank of attorneys in a locality long noted for the high order of its legal talent. He has remained a student all his life and has kept fully abreast of the times in all that pertains to his profession. He is a careful, painstaking and persevering lawyer, who spares no pains in looking after the interests of his clients and he has great power before a jury, being a logical, earnest and not infrequently truly eloquent speaker.

Having long manifested an abiding interest in public affairs, Mr. Aikman was elected prosecuting attorney of this circuit in 1890, which position he filled until 1904 in a manner that reflected much credit upon himself and to the eminent satisfaction of his constituents. In 1910 he was elected judge of the forty-seventh judicial circuit, and is still incumbent of this office. He is wearing the judicial ermine with becoming dignity, bringing to every case submitted to him a clearness of perception and ready power of analysis characteristic of the broad-minded and scholarly jurist, and he has by his able and unbiased course given ample room for the justification of the wisdom of his selection by the people of this circuit, for his decisions have been uniformly fair and clear, showing a deep and comprehensive knowledge of the basic principles of jurisprudence and the modern statutes of Indiana. His vast knowledge of the law is backed by a high purpose and an unconquerable will, as well

as vigorous mental powers, guided by high ideals and the highest sense of honor.

Judge Aikman was married in 1889 to Mary B. Chipps, a lady of culture and refinement, and a daughter of James and Martha (Dallas) Chipps, a highly respected old family. Her grandparents were born in Ireland, where they spent their earlier years, coming to Newport, Indiana, many years ago. Mr. Chipps spent his active life successfully engaged in agricultural pursuits, but is now living retired, having accumulated a competency. Politically, he is a Democrat.

The union of Judge Aikman and wife has been blessed by the birth of two children, namely: Given C. Aikman, who is still at home, and Nina, who has also remained with her parents.

The present commodious, attractive and modernly appointed home of Judge Aikman in Newport was built by him some time ago. He has resided continuously here since 1886. Fraternally, he is a member of the Masonic order, the Knights of Pythias, Lodge No. 242, and a charter member of the Modern Woodmen of America, all at Newport. Politically, the Judge is a loyal Republican, and has long been active and influential in the ranks, being a leader in local affairs. Personally, he is a man of fine address, scholarly, fair-minded, courteous, obliging and affable, but withal, plain, unassuming, a man of the people, who merits in every respect the high esteem in which he is held by all classes.

---

### HOMER J. SKEETERS.

The biographer, in writing of the representative citizens of Parke county, Indiana, has found no subject worthier, among her younger men of affairs, of representation in a work of the province of the one at hand than Prof. Homer J. Skeeters, the present able and popular incumbent of the office of county superintendent of schools. He is known as a man of high attainments and practical ability, as one who has achieved success in his profession because he has worked for it persistently and along well defined channels. His prestige in the educational circles of this locality stands in evidence of his ability and likewise stands as a voucher for intrinsic worth of character. He has used his intellect to the best purpose, has directed his energies in legitimate avenues, and his career has been based upon the wise assumption that nothing but persistent labor, integrity and fidelity to duty will lead to success. The profession of teaching, which he has made his principal life work, offers no opportunities

to the slothful, but only to such determined spirits as that of Prof. Skeeters. It is an arduous, exacting, discouraging profession to one who is unwilling to subordinate other interests to its demands, but to the true and earnest devotee it offers a sphere of action whose attractions are equal to any and whose rewards are unstinted. That the gentleman whose name initiates this review possesses the qualities enumerated is undoubted, owing to the success he has achieved while yet young in years and the high regard in which he is held by all who know him.

Homer J. Skeeters was born April 28, 1884, at Montezuma, Parke county, Indiana, the son of W. J. and Susan M. (Ware) Skeeters, the latter having been the daughter of James P. Ware, one of the original settlers of this county, who came from the blue grass region of Kentucky and began life here in typical pioneer fashion when this portion of Indiana was practically a wilderness. The mother of the subject was called to her eternal rest on December 28, 1910. W. J. Skeeters, a highly respected citizen, lives at Bloomingdale, this county, on a farm, being regarded as one of the progressive agriculturists of that community.

The Skeeters family is of German origin on the father's side. The maternal side of the subject's family is of old colonial stock, the Wares having lived in Virginia in the early history of America. Both parents of the Professor had been previously married, and the subject has a half-brother and a half-sister.

Prof. Skeeters grew to manhood in his native locality and he received his primary education in the common and high schools of the village of Marshall, Parke county, later attending the Friends Academy at Bloomingdale, Indiana. His professional training was received at the Indiana State Normal School at Terre Haute. He had given such great promise in his work that before he had completed his course in the Normal he was elected county superintendent of schools of Parke county, in February, 1911, to fill out an unexpired term, and he made such a splendid record in this capacity that he was re-elected to the office in June, 1912, for a term of four years, and is still discharging the duties of this important office in a manner that reflects much credit upon his ability and to the eminent satisfaction of all concerned, irrespective of party alignment. He has his own ideas of school policy, which are modern and progressive, and which he seeks to maintain. He found the schools in good shape when he came in office, but he began at once to secure a better organization, especially in the rural schools, and this has received his close attention ever since. He hopes to have all eight schools commissioned as high schools before his term of office expires. The rural school problem—

that of making it more efficient—is one of his vital aims during his administration. He has done a most commendable work in strengthening the schools of the county and much better work is being done than ever before.

Prof. Skeeters began teaching in 1901 and was teaching his eleventh year when he was elected county superintendent. He began in Washington township, where he taught one year, also spent one year in Greene township, then taught in Montezuma three years and for six years was principal of the Bloomingdale schools, giving the utmost satisfaction in all to both pupil and patron, for he is regarded a painstaking, careful instructor, and as an entertainer at the same time.

Prof. Skeeters was married to Madge K. Harrison, daughter of O. S. and Mary (Bates) Harrison, a highly respected family of Rosedale, Indiana, the wedding occurring in 1902. Her family from both sides came from Clinton, this state. O. S. Harrison started the first bank at Marshall, Indiana, and later established the bank at Rosedale. He is a man of much business ability and an influential citizen in this community. Mrs. Skeeters received a good education in the schools of her native town and is in every way a fit helpmate for a man of the type of the subject. This union has been graced by the birth of three children, namely: Maxwell James, Harold Harrison and Warren Ware.

Prof. Skeeters belongs to the Knights of Pythias, the Masons and the Modern Woodmen in his fraternal relations, and he holds membership in the Baptist church. Mrs. Skeeters is a member of the Christian church. Mr. Skeeters was formerly superintendent of the Sunday school at Bloomingdale, and has long been identified with church work. Politically, the Professor is a Democrat and loyal to its principles. Personally, he is a young man of pleasing address, kind, obliging, genial and uniformly courteous, being popular with all classes.

---

### JOSEPH W. STRAIN.

Joseph W. Strain, president of the First National Bank of Clinton, is the scion of the two of the honored old pioneer families of this section of the state. He was born in this county on June 22, 1867, and he is the son of Daniel E. and Mary J. (Helt) Strain, the father born near Findlay, Ohio, from which state he came to Indiana very early and settled in Helt township, Vermillion county. The Helt family were among the very earliest settlers here, coming as early as 1818, when the country was a wilderness and the



abode of all manner of wild beasts and red men. They settled on what has since been known as Helt prairie, Helt township, both having been named in their honor.

Daniel E. Strain devoted his life to general farming and stock raising in Vermillion county, becoming well established through his industry, and he was married in this county. His death occurred in 1903, at the age of seventy-nine years. His widow is still living, being now advanced in years, making her home with her daughter, Mrs. Frances A. Southard. She is a woman of gracious personality and, like her worthy husband before her, has always had a large number of warm friends throughout Vermillion county.

Six children were born to Daniel E. Strain and wife, namely: Isaac H., who lives in Greencastle, Indiana; Frances A., who married Eura Southard, of Vermillion county; Charles H., who lives in Helt township; Elizabeth married Victor Reichwald, of Chicago; James died when twenty years of age; Joseph W., of this review, being the youngest.

Joseph W. Strain grew to manhood in his native county and was educated in the common schools here, later entering the Indiana State Normal School at Terre Haute, from which he was graduated with the class of 1893. He also attended Indiana University and Chicago University. After leaving school he began life for himself by teaching, which he continued with success for a period of fifteen years. For seven years he was principal of the high school at Clinton, during which he brought the same up to a very high order of efficiency, discharging the duties of this responsible position in a manner that reflected much credit upon himself and to the eminent satisfaction of both pupils and patrons. As a teacher he kept fully abreast of the times in all that pertained to that vocation and introduced many helpful reforms, placing the local schools on an equal footing with any in the state and winning a reputation as an instructor and manager second to none. Finally tiring of the school room and perceiving a broader field for the exercise of his talents in another direction, Mr. Strain gave up his work as principal of the Clinton high school to take a position in the First National Bank of Clinton, of which he has become president, the important duties of which exacting position he has filled in a most able and commendable manner, giving eminent satisfaction to the stockholders and all concerned, his able management and wise counsel resulting in greatly increasing the prestige of this popular and sound institution, one of the most conservative and safe banks in the state, according to those who have investigated its standing. Its other officers are: Edward Shirkie, vice-president; O. F. Houston, cashier; board of directors, F. L. Swinehart, John R. Newton, Edward Shirkie, B. H. Morgan, H. K. Morgan

and H. R. McClelland. This bank was organized in 1902, with a capital stock of thirty thousand dollars, and its present surplus is eleven thousand dollars. The stock is all held by local business men.

Mr. Strain was married in 1908 to Grace Little, daughter of Rufus and Emily (Noyes) Little, a highly respected family of Vermillion county. Mrs. Strain was born and reared in Vermillion county, and received a good education in the local schools and is a graduate of the Chicago Art Institute.

Religiously, Mr. Strain is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and he is treasurer of the board of stewards of the same. Politically, he is a Progressive.

---

### JAMES E. ELDER.

A man of marked individuality, James E. Elder, the present able and popular incumbent of the office of county auditor of Parke county, is a typical representative of that large and enterprising class of men of affairs to whom Parke and Vermillion counties, or indeed the entire commonwealth of Indiana, owe much of their prosperity and development, and his record, whether as a private citizen or as a public servant, shows him to have been faithful in the performance of his duty in his native Wabash county whose interests he has ever had at heart and sought to promote and he has therefore always enjoyed the good will and confidence of all classes.

Mr. Elder was born on November 8, 1868, in Washington township, Parke county, Indiana, on a farm. He is the son of James M. and Sarah A. (Burford) Elder. The father was a native of Madison county, Kentucky, from which state he came to Parke county, Indiana, in 1825 and settled on a farm, which became the old homestead. He began life in typical pioneer fashion and was one of the influential early settlers here. He was an honest, hospitable, hard-working man, who followed farming all his life and lived continuously on the same farm. No man was better or more favorably known in this section of the state during his day and generation. He enjoyed an unusually large circle of friends, although the country was at that early period sparsely settled, and he deserved the esteem in which he was universally held. He was an advocate of all that was best for his community and his fellow men. He was a stanch Democrat, having first voted for James K. Polk for President. When seventy-four years old he had the misfortune to lose his right arm. He was a faithful member of the old school Baptist church. His death occurred on April 29, 1905, at the advanced age of eighty-three.

years, having been born March 25, 1822. The mother of the immediate subject of this sketch was the daughter of William B. Burford, who was one of the pioneers of the county. She was a woman of many commendable traits of character, and she had a host of friends. Mrs. Elder had a marked natural love for literature and music. To those who knew her best her appreciation of these things seemed unusual in one having the limited educational advantages of her early life. Her death occurred on June 17, 1908, at the age of seventy-nine years, her birth having occurred in April, 1829.

Nine children were born to Mr. and Mrs. James M. Elder, namely: Elizabeth, wife of J. D. Overman, of Rockville; Dora, deceased, was the wife of Dudley McWilliams, of Washington township, this county; William A. is deceased; Anna is the wife of J. D. Adams, of Indianapolis; Emma is the wife of W. W. Cummings, of Marshall, Parke county; Ella is the wife of W. F. Blue, of Montezuma, Parke county; David died in infancy; Lucy is the wife of Dr. G. W. Farver, of Seymour, Indiana; James E., of this sketch, is the youngest of the family.

James E. Elder was reared on the old homestead in this county and there he assisted with the general work when old enough, and he received his primary education in the rural schools of his community. He subsequently attended Bloomingdale Academy, from which institution he was graduated with the class of 1888; he then took a course at Earlham College, Richmond, Indiana, making an excellent record as a student, and he was graduated from that institution with the class of 1891, earning by his college record, a scholarship to Haverford College, Pennsylvania.

Mr. Elder began life for himself by spending one year in newspaper work after he left college, and was employed at different places, his last work having been on the old *Indianapolis Journal*. He returned to Parke county in the fall of 1893 and resumed farming on the home place, and on account of his natural love of country life and also on account of the infirmity of his aged father he afterwards decided to remain permanently on the farm. He continued successfully on the farm until elected county auditor in 1910 on the Democratic ticket. Something of his popularity with all classes may be gained from the fact that he is the second Democratic county auditor of Parke county since the Civil war. He has discharged the duties of this office in a manner that has reflected much credit upon his ability and to the eminent satisfaction of all concerned, his selection justifying the wisdom of his constituents in every respect.

Mr. Elder was married on June 13, 1901, to Mell Newlin, daughter of Harlan B. and Jane (Hadley) Newlin, of Bloomingdale, Indiana, a promi-

ment pioneer family of Friends in Parke county. Mrs. Elder's mother was a daughter of Alfred Hadley, a prominent abolitionist of Parke county before the war. To the subject and wife have been born three sons, named as follows: James Harlan, born September 24, 1902; William Alfred, born October 19, 1903; Joseph Addison, born April 13, 1908.

Mr. Elder is a member of the Masonic order at Marshall, Parke county. Politically, he is a faithful supporter of the Democratic party.

Mr. Elder has been very successful in a business way and he is the owner of the home farm, pleasantly located five miles north of Rockville and containing three hundred and forty acres. He has kept the old place well improved and carefully cultivated so that it has retained its original fertility and strength of soil, and here he has carried on general farming on a large and modern scale, being regarded as one of the successful and substantial agriculturists and stock men of the county. He has long been active in politics and influential in the councils of his party, though he is not a politician in a strict sense, merely desiring to aid his party and work for the general development of his county and state, aspiring to be merely a good citizen in the best sense of the term. He is an excellent judge of live stock, and until recently was a breeder of short-horn cattle, which, owing to their superior quality, always found a very ready market when offered for sale. He and his wife are great lovers of farm life, fully appreciating its freedom, healthfulness and diversity of charms.

---

#### HARRISON T. PAYNE.

That life is the most useful and desirable that results in the greatest good to the greatest number and, though all do not reach the goal of which they are ambitious of attaining, yet in some measure each can win success and make life a blessing to others. It is not necessary for one to occupy eminent public positions to do so, for in the humbler walks of life there remains much good to be accomplished and many opportunities for the exercise of our powers and influence which in some way will touch others with whom we come into contact, making them better and brighter. In the list of worthy citizens of Vermillion county occurs the names of Harrison T. Payne, formerly a well known educator and business man, and who has for the past eight years discharged the duties of county auditor in a manner as to bring forth the praise of all concerned. In his career there is much that is commendable and his life forcibly illustrates what one can accomplish, even in the face of obsta-



cles, if one's plans are wisely laid and his actions governed by right principles, noble aims and high ideals.

Mr. Payne was born near Pimento, Vigo county, Indiana, on May 4, 1868. He is a son of Thomas J. and Adeline (Jewell) Payne, natives of Vigo county and Kentucky, respectively. The father spent his active life in agricultural pursuits. During the Civil war he enlisted in Company C, Eighty-fifth Indiana Volunteer Infantry. Six brothers of the subject's mother were soldiers in the Union army during the war of the Rebellion.

To Thomas J. Payne and wife were born the following children: Frank B. is engaged in railroad construction work at Weiser, Idaho; Martha J. married John H. Richey, a farmer of Eureka, Kansas; Nancy J. married Daniel B. Stark, and they live in Colorado; Riley is farming at Howard, Kansas; Sarah J. married Thomas Forster, of Vermillion, Illinois; Harrison T. of this review; Felix B. is a merchant of Clovis, New Mexico.

Politically, Thomas J. Payne is a Republican. For some time he was justice of the peace in Edgar county, Illinois. He is a member of the Christian church and is a deacon in the same.

Harrison T. Payne was educated in the common schools of Indiana and Illinois. Thereafter he taught school for a period of fifteen years in a most successful manner, his services being in great demand. Finally tiring of the school room, he entered the business arena and was local agent for the International Harvester Company, at Clinton, Indiana, for some time, and he also engaged in the general mercantile business there. Taking an interest in public affairs, he was elected assessor of Clinton township, which position he held in an acceptable manner for six years. He was treasurer of the school board at Clinton for a year. For two years he was secretary of the Clinton Home Loan & Savings Association. He taught for some time in the Clinton schools, and in 1904 was elected auditor of Vermillion county, and, making a most commendable record, he was re-elected in 1908, serving eight years in all, his term expiring December 31, 1912. He was conceded by all to be one of the best officials the county has ever had, and he discharged his duties so ably, honorably and conscientiously that he ever enjoyed the confidence and good will of all.

Mr. Payne was married on April 12, 1896, to Carrie B. Fuqua, daughter of Marshall D. Fuqua, of Sandford, Indiana, and to this union three children have been born, namely: Rheocus T., Lucille, and Mabel.

Mr. Payne is a member of the Christian church. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America. Politically, he is a loyal Republican and is chairman of the Republican county committee.

After the subject was twenty-one years old he paid tuition to attend a country school during the winter and summer months, which was conducted by his sister west of Sandford, Indiana, just over the line in Illinois. When Mr. Payne was seventeen years old he went to Kansas, where he remained for two years and seven months, and engaged in carrying a star mail route, in the employ of his brother-in-law, who held the government contract, carrying the mail between Climax and Nealville, Kansas. He was one of the first rural mail carriers in the country, leaving mail for farmers, charging them fifty cents per month.

---

#### FRANK H. BEELER, M. D.

Though the young man whose name heads this sketch can not claim long experience, he has shown by the purposes which have thus far guided his life, and the ideals which have actuated him, that he is one whose influence in the community will ever be for right and progress, and who will always continue to deserve the esteem of his fellows while he pursues his present course. The son of a successful farmer and business man, he early felt a calling to the profession of medicine and began its study at the earliest opportunity. No man can do more for the advancement of his community than the physician of intellect, heart and courage, who lives true to the ethics of this profession which comes closer to the majority of mankind than any other.

Frank H. Beeler, the son of John B. and Sarah (McHarry) Beeler, was born in Elizabethtown, Kentucky, on August 30, 1885. Frank L. McHarry, maternal grandfather, built the canal at the falls at Louisville, Kentucky, and was owner of a line of steam and ferry boats, and was a well-known and prominent man especially among steamboat men. Grandfather John Henry Beeler passed the greater portion of his life in Kentucky, and there was laid away to his final rest. John B. Beeler was born in Kentucky in 1846, and lives at New Albany, Indiana. He is a gravel road contractor, owns several farms, and has made a success of business undertakings, as well as accumulating even greater wealth in the number of strong friendships which he has made wherever he goes. Sarah McHarry was born in Kentucky on August 18, 1860. As a result of her marriage to John B. Beeler there were born twelve children, eight of whom survived their father.

The father of the subject is a believer in education, and offered his children all reasonable opportunities to obtain it. Frank H. graduated at a small town high school, and later at the Manual Training High School at Louisville.

Kentucky. He then attended the Kentucky Medical University at Louisville, graduating from it, and was for some time connected with St. Edward's Hospital at New Albany, Indiana. In 1908 he started practicing at Boswell, Wisconsin, later removed to Terre Haute, Indiana, and on March 30, 1911, came to Clinton, where he bought town property and took up the practice of his profession. Though success was at first slow, he now has a good and increasing practice and stands well with the members of his profession.

Doctor Beeler adheres to the Catholic faith of his mother. In politics he is a Democrat. He is an active member of the Knights of Columbus, and a man of influence in the local branch of that organization.

---

### LUCIUS OWEN BISHOP.

The most elaborate history is necessarily an abridgement, the historian being compelled to select his facts and materials from a multitude of details. So in every life of honor and usefulness the biographer finds no dearth of incident, and yet in summing up the career of any man the writer needs touch only the most salient points, giving only the keynote of his character, and eliminating much that is superfluous. Consequently in calling the reader's attention to the life record of Lucius Owen Bishop no attempt will be made to recount all the important acts in his useful life, for it is deemed that only a few of them will show him to be worthy of a place in this volume along with his fellows of high standing and recognized worth, men who have figured in the growth and prosperity of the section of the state with which they are identified.

Lucius Owen Bishop, editor and publisher of the *Clinton Argus*, one of the best known and most popular newspapers of Vermillion county, is a native of the city of Clinton, where he was born on April 17, 1859. He is a son of Francis Marion and Malinda (Anderson) Bishop, the father a native of Massachusetts and the mother of Virginia. The subject's paternal grandfather, Hiram Bishop, who came to Clinton county in 1852, was a well known contractor and builder. Among his public works was the construction of a massive timber bridge across the Wabash river at Clinton in 1852-3. He married Sabrina Chapman and they became the parents of four children, of whom the eldest was Francis M., the subject's father. Hiram Bishop made Clinton his home until his death, which occurred in the spring



*L.O. Bishop*





of 1874. Francis M. Bishop accompanied his father to Clinton in 1852 and here followed the vocations of architect and decorator, in which he acquired a good reputation. He made Clinton his residence from the time he came here until his death, in 1905. In 1858 he married Malinda Anderson, who bore him three children, the subject of this sketch being the eldest. The other two are Edwin Anderson Bishop, of Libertyville, Illinois, and Sarah Bishop, of Clinton. The mother of these children died in 1871, and in 1874 Mr. Bishop married Jennie Highill, of Newport, by whom he had three children, of whom only one is living, Ethel Bishop.

Lucius O. Bishop secured his elementary education in the public schools of Clinton, and in 1877 he took up the study of law under the preceptorage of Henry A. White, of Clinton. He made good headway in mastering the principles of law and in a small way he began the practice before he attained his majority. But his legal ambitions were laid aside in 1879 when he entered the field of journalism, as one of the publishers of the *Clinton Herald*. In 1882 the partnership which had been formed was dissolved and Mr. Bishop founded the *Clinton Argus* in August of that year, and he has since remained in sole control of the paper. The *Argus* is a weekly newspaper and was established as an independent Republican paper, but in 1884 its political faith was changed to that of radical Democracy, advocating the single-tax, free-trade democracy of Henry George. Mr. Bishop was the first man in Indiana to volunteer with Henry George and the *Argus* was the first single tax paper in the country east of San Francisco. Typographically, the *Argus* is the equal of any of its contemporaries, while as a dispenser of current local news it is all that could be desired, its efficiency being attested by the splendid subscription list which sends it into homes in all parts of Vermillion and Parke counties. Its editorial utterances are forceful and exert a definite influence in moulding public thought and opinion. Mr. Bishop takes no half-way ground on the great questions on which men and parties differ and his support may always be counted upon in favor of all movements having for their object the upbuilding of the community in every right way. Personally, Mr. Bishop is a man of strong character and positive opinions; possesses excellent business qualifications, and, though he has met with a notable success in the field of journalism, he is very unassuming and genial, and because of his excellent worth he enjoys the good will of all who know him.

On November 30, 1893, Mr. Bishop was married to Jennie A. Ringo, a

native of Paris, Edgar county, Illinois, and the daughter of George and Elizabeth (Mann) Ringo. To Mr. and Mrs. Bishop have been born two children, Mary Elizabeth and Henry George, both of whom are in school.

Politically, Mr. Bishop is a Democrat and in 1893 was appointed postmaster of Clinton by President Cleveland, serving over three years to the entire satisfaction of both the patrons of the office and the government.

---

### GEORGE W. SPENCER, JR.

Among the progressive and enterprising citizens of Parke county who have achieved a definite measure of success in a diversity of vocations and have at the same time assisted materially in the upbuilding and development of the county, is George W. Spencer, Jr., the present able and popular incumbent of the office of county treasurer, who was for many years one of the most successful and best liked educators and later one of Parke county's enterprising merchants. He is deserving of mention in a work of the province assigned to the one in hand along with the other leading citizens of Parke and Vermillion counties, because he has led a life that is highly commendable in every respect.

Mr. Spencer was born in Greene township, Parke county, Indiana, July 12, 1871, on a farm which his grandfather entered from the government in 1831. His parents were George W., Sr., and Mary (Clark) Spencer. The father also was a native of Parke county, born on the farm on which his father, John Spencer, settled in 1831, and he has continued to reside there throughout his life, and has kept the old place well cultivated and well improved. The mother of the subject was born at Judson, Parke county, and died at her home October 3, 1912. To these parents ten children have been born, nine of whom are still living, namely: John, living at Russellville, Putnam county, this state; Jesse lives on the home farm; Allen also has remained on the homestead; William died when thirteen years old; George W., Jr., of this review; Frank lives near Parkeville, this county, on a farm; Elsie is the wife of Elmer M. McCutcheon, of Milligan, Parke county; Aria lives with her father at the home place; Wilbur lives near Waveland, Montgomery county, Indiana; Fred is farming in Parke county.

George W. Spencer, Sr., was born November 14, 1840. He has devoted his life to agricultural pursuits, and at one time he served as trustee of Greene township.

George W. Spencer, Jr., spent his boyhood days on the home farm and there assisted with the general work during crop seasons, and in the winter time he attended the rural schools in his neighborhood. After graduating from the common schools, he attended the State Normal School at Terre Haute for two years, then began teaching in Greene township of his native county, and continued to teach there for four years, then taught one year in Mecca and four terms at Milligan, all in Parke county. He gave eminent satisfaction as a teacher and his services were in great demand. Finally tiring of the school room, he purchased a general store at the town of Milligan before finishing his last term of school. He was in partnership with his brother; this was in 1901 and they conducted that enterprise with much success for a period of seven years, or until 1908; his brother, however, had sold out his interest two years previously to another man.

The subject was elected trustee of Greene township in 1904, and served in that capacity most faithfully until the fall of 1908, when he resigned to accept the office of county treasurer, to which he had been elected on the Democratic ticket that year, and he made such a commendable showing in that capacity that he was re-elected in 1910. He is regarded as one of the best treasurers the county has ever had, being a hard worker, careful and honest.

Mr. Spencer was the nominee of his party for representative to the Legislature in 1912. The county is nominally Republican by about six hundred votes, but owing to our subject's prominence with all classes he was again elected to the office sought. He enjoys the distinction of being the only Democratic representative from his county in fifty years, except the Hon. Dick Miller, elected in 1896 by a fusion of Democrats and Populists.

Mr. Spencer was married on June 3, 1896, to Cora A. Stuart, daughter of Zeno and Jane (Hadley) Stuart, a prominent family of Hendricks county, Indiana. She was formerly a teacher, having taught two or three years in her native county and one year in Henry county, this state. Her father was a native of North Carolina. He and his wife are both now deceased. They became the parents of seven children, four of whom are now living, namely: Melvin, who makes his home in Hendricks county, Indiana; Cora A., wife of Mr. Spencer; Tillie, deceased; Osie is the wife of John W. Figg, ex-county superintendent of Hendricks county, but now teaching at Plainfield, Indiana; Olie is the wife of Frank McCormick, a merchant of Danville, Indiana.

To Mr. and Mrs. Spencer six children have been born, namely: Hoyt S., born April 14, 1897, was graduated from the common schools and is now in high school; Gladys, born October 16, 1898, is also in high school; Dwight,



born January 27, 1901; Olive, born September 22, 1902; Kieth, born December 11, 1905; Kent, born October 8, 1907.

Fraternally, Mr. Spencer belongs to the Modern Woodmen at Waveland, Montgomery county, Indiana, since 1908. He also belongs to the Knights of Pythias at Rockville. The family attends the Christian church and are faithful in their support of the same.

---

### ROBERT HENRY NIXON.

The two most strongly marked characteristics of both the East and the West are combined in the residents of Vermillion and Parke counties. The enthusiastic enterprise which overleaps all obstacles and makes possible almost any undertaking in the comparatively new and vigorous middle West is here tempered by the stable and more careful policy that we have borrowed from our Eastern neighbors, and the combination is one of peculiar force and power. It has been a means of placing this section on a par with the older East, at the same time producing a reliability and certainty in business affairs which is frequently lacking in the West. This happy combination of characteristics is possessed to a notable degree by Robert Henry Nixon, well known banker and business man of Newport, one of the worthiest of Vermillion county's native sons, whose influence during a very industrious and useful life has made for the general progress of the locality of which this volume deals. He is too well known to the readers of this work to need any formal introduction here, his career having conferred credit on the state and his marked abilities and sterling qualities having won for him more than local repute. Strong mental powers, invincible courage and a determined purpose that hesitates at no opposition have so entered into his composition as to render him a dominant factor in the business world and a leader of men. He is essentially a man of affairs, of sound judgment, keen discernment and rare acumen, far-seeing in what he undertakes, and every enterprise to which he has addressed himself has been successful. His success in life has been the legitimate fruitage of consecutive effort, directed and controlled by good judgment and correct principles.

Mr. Nixon is the scion of a sterling old pioneer family that was popular and influential in this locality in the days of the early settlers. He was born at Newport, Indiana, May 24, 1842, and the major part of his three score and ten years have been spent in his native community. He is a son of Joshua

and Margaret (Lovejoy) Nixon, both natives of Adams county, Ohio, where they spent their earlier years, and there the father learned the trade of cabinet-maker and a flat-boat builder, also operated a flat boat on the Mississippi river, making twenty-one trips from Ohio to New Orleans. He built a house boat at Ripley, Ohio, on which he floated down the Ohio river to the mouth of the Wabash, ascending the latter, and located at the frontier village of Newport, Indiana, in 1831. He here continued to follow his trade of cabinet-maker and flat-boat builder, establishing the permanent home of the family here, and his death occurred at this home at the age of sixty-four years. He had but one child, Robert Henry, of this review. Religiously, the former was a Methodist, and in politics a Whig, later a Republican, and allying himself with the Know-Nothing party when it was launched. He was known for his honesty, hospitality and industry and was popular with rivermen over the country and the early settlers of Newport.

Robert H. Nixon was born in a log house in Newport, and here he grew to manhood and was educated. Upon the commencement of the war of the states he enlisted for service with the national troops, Company C. Eighteenth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, on July 20, 1861, at Camp Morton, Indianapolis, and he saw considerable hard service in Missouri and Arkansas, being under fire at Paw Paw, in the former state, and for meritorious conduct he was promoted to the rank of sergeant. He was discharged on March 29, 1862, at Cross Timber, Arkansas, on account of disability. After recovering his health he entered the drug business on February 11, 1863, and continued successfully in the same until 1893, or a period of thirty years, during which his was one of the best known and most popular drug stores in this part of the Wabash valley. In that year he was burned out. He then entered the banking business, which he still follows. He had organized the bank of R. H. Nixon at his home town, Newport, on January 1, 1872, with a capital stock of five thousand dollars, which succeeded from the start under his able management and gradually grew with advancing years until it is now one of the most popular, sound and conservative banking institutions in western Indiana. Its officers at present are: R. H. Nixon, president; H. V. Nixon, cashier; B. R. Nixon, assistant cashier. The stockholders are: Ida Nixon Galloway, of South Bend; Mary Nixon Davis, of Terre Haute; Lena Nixon Travis, of Fort Wayne; R. H. Nixon, H. V. Nixon, B. R. Nixon and Marie Nixon, all of Newport. The capital stock is now thirty thousand dollars, with a surplus of fifteen thousand dollars. They carry on a general banking business, under the firm name of R. H. Nixon & Company, Bankers. They have a substantial

and attractive bank building, and the safe and other fixtures and furnishings are up-to-date in every respect. The bank owns two valuable, productive and well improved farms in this locality, one of two hundred and thirty-nine acres and the other of two hundred and eighty acres. Robert H. Nixon owns personally one thousand three hundred thirty-five and one-half acres, all tillable but one hundred acres. It is all well improved and fertile. He is also a stockholder in the State Bank of West Terre Haute, a director in the Union Trust Company of Indianapolis, also a stockholder in the McKeen National Bank and the United States Trust Company, both of Terre Haute. He has been very successful in a financial way and is one of the substantial men of this section of the state, wielding a potent and wide influence in financial and business circles.

Politically, Mr. Nixon is a Republican and is a leader in local party affairs. He was a delegate to the Republican national convention in 1888. He was a member and treasurer of the Newport school board for a period of twenty-four years. Fraternally, he is a Mason.

The domestic life of Mr. Nixon began on October 16, 1865, when he led to the hymeneal altar a lady of culture and refinement, known in her maidenhood as Maria Hefflerman, who was born in Vermillion township, Vermillion county, Indiana, and is a daughter of Elias Hefflerman and wife, a highly esteemed family of that section. The union of Mr. Nixon and wife has been graced by the birth of seven children, named as follows: Blanche, who married Fred Collett, is deceased; Ida is the wife of Dr. U. G. Galloway, of South Bend; Mary married O. D. Davis, of Terre Haute; Lena is the wife of Claude E. Travis, of Fort Wayne; Bertha died when eight years old; H. V. and B. R. are assisting their father in the bank.

Personally, Mr. Nixon is a gentleman whom it is a pleasure to meet, unassuming, genial, obliging, a man of public spirit, unusual business ability and industry and a man of scrupulous honesty and high ideals, progressive in his thought and wholesome in his private and business life.

---

#### ALFRED H. STARK.

Energy, sound judgment and persistency of effort will always win the goal sought in the sphere of human endeavor, no matter what the environment may be or what obstacles are met with, for they who are endowed with such characteristics make of their adversities stepping stones to higher things. These reflections are suggested by the career of Alfred H. Stark, president of

the Parke State Bank, at Rockville, and a man who has long ranked as one of the leading financiers and representative citizens of Parke and Vermillion counties, having forged his way to the front ranks of men of affairs through his own efforts. He has been for many years an important factor in business circles of the thriving little city of which he is native and where he has been pleased to spend his life, and his popularity is well deserved, as in him are embraced the characteristics of an unswerving honesty and public spirit that never flags.

Alfred H. Stark was born on July 16, 1866, in Rockville, Indiana, and is the son of Alfred K. and Sarah (Harris) Stark, both natives of Rockville and each representing prominent pioneer families. Alfred K. Stark, who was born on February 14, 1840, has been a lifelong resident of Rockville. In 1855, at the age of fifteen years, he entered business as a clerk in the drug store of Coffin & Davis. In 1862 he purchased a half interest in the business and 1864 bought the remaining interest. A year later he sold an interest in the store to his brother, D. W. Stark, and, under the name of Stark Brothers, the business was continued until their stock was destroyed by fire on September 17, 1870. In 1873 Alfred K. Stark became associated with Messrs. Tate and Coulter as original proprietors of the Parke Banking Company. Later he became president of the bank, which became known as the Parke State Bank, its present name. Mr. Stark has been an influential business man for a half century and at present he is chairman of the board of directors of the bank. Alfred K. Stark was twice in the military service of his country during the Civil war, having served as a private in Company C, Seventy-eighth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and as an orderly sergeant in Company F, One Hundred and Thirty-third Indiana Regiment.

Alfred H. Stark, the immediate subject of this review, grew to manhood in Rockville and received a public school education there, which has been supplemented by close home reading of a miscellaneous nature and by wide observation and actual experience in the business world. When twenty years of age he began his business career by taking a position in the Parke State Bank. From the beginning he exhibited unusual ability in this line of effort, consequently his rise was rapid, and in 1886 he was made assistant cashier. About 1889 he became cashier and in 1908 he was elected to the presidency of the institution, the duties of which responsible position he has continued to discharge to the present time in a manner that reflects much credit upon himself and to the eminent satisfaction of the stockholders and patrons. The excellent prestige of this sound and popular institution, which has long wielded a potent influence in financial and commercial affairs in this and adjoining



counties, has been due in no small measure to his energy, wise counsel and able management.

Mr. Stark was married on October 18, 1892, to Mary Thomson, daughter of William M. Thomson, a well known merchant of Rockville, in which city Mrs. Stark grew to womanhood and received her education and where she has always been popular with a large circle of friends. This union has been without issue.

Fraternally, Mr. Stark is a thirty-second-degree Mason and has long been active in that order. He belongs to the Memorial Presbyterian church of Rockville and is a liberal supporter of the same, being one of its trustees and most influential workers. Politically, he is a Republican, but not a biased partisan or active in the ranks; however, his support may always be depended upon in furthering any movement looking to the betterment of his town or county in any way. He has been very successful in a business way, and in connection with the bank he is the owner of a valuable and well improved farm, in which he takes much interest. He is a fine type of the progressive, far-seeing, obliging and genteel business man of the twentieth century.

---

#### JOHN A. LINEBARGER.

The men most influential in promoting the advancement of society and in giving character to the times in which they live are two classes—the men of study and the men of action. Whether we are not more indebted for the improvement of the age to the one class or the other is a question of honest difference of opinion; neither can be spared and both should be encouraged to occupy their several spheres of labor and influence zealously and without mutual distrust. In the following paragraphs are briefly outlined the leading facts and characteristics in the career of a gentleman who combines in his make-up the elements of the scholar and the energy of the public-spirited man of affairs. Devoted to the noble and humane work of teaching, Prof. John A. Linebarger, the efficient and popular superintendent of the Rockville public schools, Parke county, Indiana, has made his influence felt in a most potent manner in the locality of which this history treats. All who come within range of his influence are profuse in their praise of his admirable qualities, and the high regard in which he is held, not only professionally but socially, indicates the possession of attributes and characteristics that fully entitle him to the respect and consideration of his fellow men.

John A. Linebarger was born in West Union, Reserve township, Parke county, Indiana, on February 28, 1876, and he is the son of George and Mariah (Hocker) Linebarger, both also natives of Parke county. George Linebarger, who still lives at West Union, is a farmer by vocation and possesses those sterling qualities which have gained for him a high standing among the best men in his community. The subject's paternal grandfather, Andrew Linebarger, was a native of North Carolina, and came to Parke county in 1822, being numbered among the pioneers of this section of the state. He settled at West Union, where he spent the remainder of his life, dying on April 28, 1907, at the advanced age of ninety-two years. He was married twice, first to Elizabeth Burton and then to Mary Warner, and became the father of fifteen children. To George and Mariah Linebarger were born six children, of whom four are living, those besides the subject being Mary and Melvina, at home, and Mrs. Ivah Scott, of Santiago, Chile, whose husband is a teacher of mathematics in a boys' institute there. Both of the subject's parents taught in the schools of Parke county prior to their marriage.

John A. Linebarger received his elementary education in the common schools of Reserve township, following which he entered De Pauw University, at Greencastle, where he spent seven years, three years in the preparatory department and four years in the college proper. He was graduated in June, 1897, with the degree of Bachelor of Arts and took the Phi Beta Kappa honors. He was also a tutor in Greek for two years in the university while a student. Following his graduation, Professor Linebarger was for two years engaged in teaching school in his home township, following which he gave two years' service as principal of the high school at Fowler, Indiana. He then became superintendent of the public schools at Montezuma, this county, remaining there for four years and establishing a record for efficiency and ability that was bound to receive larger recognition. Seven years ago he was offered and accepted the position of superintendent of the schools at Rockville, in which position he has been retained from year to year, his administration of the schools being eminently satisfactory to both board and patrons. He has brought the schools up to a standard of efficiency that ranks them with any in this section of the state, due to his force of character, ability as an organizer and the results of his professional experience. He has shown himself to be a man of progressive ideas, broad-minded, and he keeps fully abreast of the times in all matters pertaining to his profession. His work is characteristically practical and in teaching or in superintending and arranging the course of study, he possesses to a notable degree the sense of proportion and fitness. Although a school man in the broadest and best sense of the term,

Professor Linebarger has never become narrow or pedantic, but is a well-rounded, symmetrically-developed man, fully alive to the demands of the times, thoroughly informed on the leading questions before the public and takes broad views of men and things.

His abilities have been recognized by his professional brethren through the state and he is a prominent member of the Southern Indiana Teachers' Association, comprising three thousand members, being the present chairman of that body.

Religiously, Professor Linebarger is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, in the activities of which he is deeply interested, especially in the Sunday school, where he is the teacher of the men's Bible class of one hundred and thirty-five members. Fraternally, he is member of the Free and Accepted Masons, while his social affiliation is with the Shakespeare Club, a leading literary club of Rockville. As president of the Rockville Chautauqua Association, Professor Linebarger has been an important factor in the success which has attended the institution, for in this, as in everything to which he bends his energies, he gives the very best that is in him. His support may always be counted upon in favor of every movement having for its object the advancement of the city's best interests.

On November 22, 1905, John A. Linebarger was married to Iva Blue, of Montezuma, the daughter of James M. and Mary A. (Brown) Blue, a well known Parke county family. Mr. Blue died on December 28, 1907, being survived by his widow.

---

### JOSEPH WILBOURN AMIS.

Success in what are popularly termed the learned professions is the legitimate result of merit and painstaking endeavor. In commercial life one may come into possession of a lucrative business through inheritance or gift, but professional advancement is gained only by critical study and consecutive research long continued. Proper intellectual discipline, thorough professional knowledge and the possession and utilization of the qualities and attributes essential to success have made Joseph W. Amis, of Clinton, Indiana, eminent in his chosen calling, and he now stands among the scholarly and able lawyers in a community long distinguished for the high order of its legal talent. His professional life has been characterized by not only the most adroit ability, but also by a broad human sympathy and an innate sense of actual justice, for when a youth he realized that there is no honor not founded on genuine

worth, there is a vital purpose in life and that the best and highest accomplishment must come from a well-trained mind and an altruistic heart.

Joseph W. Amis was born in Clinton township, Vermillion county, Indiana, on February 18, 1868, and is the only child of Garret and Jane (Clover) Amis, both of whom also were natives of Clinton township. The subject is the descendant in the sixth generation from the noted French Huguenot, John Amis, whose son, Thomas Amis, was the progenitor of the family in America. The subject's paternal great-grandfather was John Amis, of the same name as his noted French ancestor. In an early day, and while still a youth, John Amis emigrated to Kentucky, locating on Goose creek, where he acquired a large tract of land, becoming one of the most prominent and influential men of the eastern part of that state. He met a tragic death by assassination in 1808. His son, Wilbourn Amis, who was born in 1798, was, after the death of his father, taken to Rogersville, Tennessee, where he received his education and was reared to manhood. Among his children was Garret Amis, father of the subject of this sketch, who was born on July 23, 1838, and who is now an honored resident of New Goshen, Vigo county, Indiana, having for many years been successfully engaged as a farmer and stock man. When the subject was but two years old, his mother died, and subsequently his father married Elizabeth Pinson, a representative of one of the prominent and well-known pioneer families of Vigo county, and whose death occurred on July 13, 1908. To this second union were born two children, Nettie, of New Goshen, Indiana, and James T., of Wallace, Kansas.

Joseph W. Amis secured his elementary education in the public schools at New Goshen, Indiana, and Oswego, Kansas, and the high school at Bolivar, Missouri. He then took a business course in a college at Delaware, Ohio, and also prepared himself in pedagogy at the State Normal School at Terre Haute. During the period from 1886 to 1892 Mr. Amis engaged in teaching school in Vigo and Vermillion counties, gaining a well earned reputation as an able and successful educator. In the meantime he had determined to take up the practice of law for his life work and to this end he had spent his leisure hours in the study of Blackstone, Kent and other standard legal authorities. In 1890 he was admitted to the bar of Vigo county and in 1899 he was admitted to practice in the United States courts. In 1892 Mr. Amis entered upon the active practice of the law in Clinton and has continued here since, with the exception of two years, from November, 1896, to November, 1898, when he was located at Newport as a partner of the late Judge Charles W. Ward.



With body and mind strengthened by the sturdy and self-reliant work of a farmer's son, and his school training supplemented by experience as a teacher, Mr. Amis entered upon the practice of law well qualified for success. It is not often that true honor, public or private, comes to a man without basis in character, and during his residence in Clinton, its people have had ample means to know what manner of man Mr. Amis is. The consensus of testimony is that he is a good citizen in the full sense of the term, and worthy of public confidence. As a lawyer, he is well informed in his profession and faithful to his clients and the law. His mind is strong, judicial and well balanced, impartial and just. He possesses a rare equanimity of temper and a courtesy which has won for him the sincere regard of his associates at the bar. He is an honest and fair practitioner, taking no part in the tricks of the pettifogger or lawyer of low degree, which sometimes casts odium upon a profession which should ever be one of truth and honor. His personal life is above reproach, being a man of good morals, temperate and self-controlled. Mr. Amis has had great success as a general practitioner and has kept well abreast the times in all that pertains to his profession. He has always made it a rule not to take a case in hand unless he was thoroughly convinced as to the absolute merits of his client's cause, and this has been one of the secrets of the uniform success which has attended him.

In one line of effort alone he has earned the gratitude of the citizens of his county, namely, on behalf of good roads, of which he is an ardent advocate. Mr. Amis has probably accomplished more for the establishment and construction of good roads in Vermillion county than any other man. He has handled more petitions for gravel roads than any other man, and forty-five of such roads in this county have been constructed as the direct result of petitions presented by him and most of which were ratified by three out of four successful gravel road elections. In the examination and correction of land titles in Vermillion county Mr. Amis has also done a vast amount of work, his labors along this line undoubtedly surpassing any other lawyer in volume of business. Thoroughly accurate and reliable in important matters of this kind, he has honestly earned the large clientage which he now commands. He is at all times controlled by a high code of ethics and among his professional brethren he is held in the highest regard.

Originally a staunch Democrat in his political affiliations, Mr. Amis was in 1890 and again in 1892 nominated by his party for the office of state's attorney for Parke and Vermillion counties without any solicitation upon his part for the honors; however, at the ensuing elections he was defeated with

the rest of the ticket. He has always assumed an independent attitude in politics and in 1912 identified himself with the new Progressive party, taking an active part in advocating its platform of principles. By that party he was nominated for congressman from the fifth district, and made a vigorous canvass of the district, becoming a popular idol of his party, and he stands high in the councils of the Progressive leaders in Indiana. Fraternally, Mr. Amis is a member of the Knights of Pythias and Modern Woodmen of America, though his large professional practice precludes his giving much time or attention to fraternal matters.

On October 15, 1892, Mr. Amis was married to Olive James, the daughter of E. Wright and Sarah (Walker) James, a well known family of Helt township, Vermillion county, Indiana. To this union have been born three children, namely: Mary, who is a graduate of the Clinton high school, winning the honors of her class, and who is now a student in the State Normal School at Terre Haute; Herman is a student in the high school, and Robert Burns, who also is in school.

---

#### FRANK H. NICHOLS.

Standing in an eminent position among the men of affairs of Parke and Vermillion counties is Frank H. Nichols, who is recognized as one of Rockville's leading citizens, having for a number of years been the able and popular president of the Rockville National Bank, the reputation for soundness and conservatism of which has spread all over western Indiana, as a result of his wise management. His success has been won entirely along old and time-tried maxims, such as "Honesty is the best policy," and "There is no excellence without labor."

Mr. Nichols was born in Rockville, Indiana, August 16, 1863, the son of Jonathan and Martha B. (McEwen) Nichols. The father was a native of Bloomington, Indiana, and the mother, of Rockville. By trade the father was a tinner, later he turned his attention to the mercantile business, as a member of the firm of Nichols & Silliman, one of the oldest merchants of Rockville. He was one of the builders of the old woolen mills here. He went to California with the famous "forty-niners," and spent two years in the gold fields there. He drove a team to Westport (now Kansas City) and mules from there to his destination. He came to Parke county, Indiana, in an early day, about 1842, and early in its history he became identified with the National Bank of Rockville and in 1873 became president of the same, discharging the

duties of that important position for a period of twenty years, retiring from this institution in 1893. His death occurred in 1909. His widow still lives in Rockville, making her home with her son, Frank H., of this review, her only other child, a daughter, having died when six years old. A complete sketch of Jonathan M. Nichols occurs elsewhere in this history.

Frank H. Nichols grew to manhood in Rockville and he received his early education in the public schools here. He came into the bank of which his father was president when a young man, working for some time, then spent eight years in Indianapolis and Greenfield, Indiana. Then returning to Rockville, he became cashier of the above mentioned bank on January 1, 1894, and at the death of Mr. Catlin he was made president, which position he still holds, to the eminent satisfaction of the stockholders and patrons. He is a man of progressive ideas, keeps well abreast of the times, especially in all that pertains to the banking business, and his uniform courtesy and high principles of honor and his public spirit have rendered him popular with the people.

Mr. Nichols was married in 1903 to Olive Hunnicutt, who was born in Richmond, Indiana, and whose death occurred on September 30, 1908. She was the daughter of a prominent family of Richmond and was a lady of many estimable attributes.

Mr. Nichols is a member of the Presbyterian church, and is well known in Masonic circles, a member of the Scottish Rite and the Ancient Arabic Order of Nobles of the Mystic Shrine. Politically, he is a Republican and has long been active in the ranks. He has been city treasurer of Rockville for twelve or fourteen years.

---

#### QUINCY A. MYERS.

It is not always easy to discover and define the hidden forces that have moved a life of ceaseless activity and large success; little more can be done than to note their manifestations in the career of the individual under consideration. In view of this fact the life of the gentleman whose name appears above affords a striking example of well defined purpose with the ability to make that purpose subserve not only his own ends, but the good of his fellow men as well. Mr. Myers long held distinctive prestige in a calling which requires for its basis earnest consecration, determined persistency and self discipline of a high order, without which he could not have succeeded as he did in the labor of the great foreign mission field. After devoting many of the best years of his life to this work, with the most pronounced success,

Mr. Myers is now back in his native community, achieving equal success in the less strenuous field of business, in which his abilities have been recognized and acknowledged.

Quincy A. Myers was born in Newport, Vermillion county, Indiana, on August 14, 1867, and is the son of William C. and Maria (Burson) Myers, the former also a native of Vermillion county. The subject's paternal grandfather, George W. Myers, came from Maysville, Kentucky, to Vermillion county, Indiana, in 1820, settling west of Newport, where he followed farming. He entered land from the government, the patent for which, signed by President VanBuren, is now in the subject's possession. William C. Myers followed farming all his life and occupied an enviable position in the community. Politically a Republican, he was elected sheriff of Vermillion county and rendered faithful service in that capacity during the period from 1880-1884. To him and his wife were born three children, namely: Quincy A., the subject of this sketch; William C., of Newport, and Clara E., the wife of Alfred E. Harvey, of Kansas City, Missouri.

Quincy A. Myers secured his elementary education in the public schools and then, after special preparation, was sent by the foreign mission board of the Methodist Episcopal church to China as a missionary. He was stationed at Chungking, China, for sixteen years, taking an active and effective part in the labors of that field. He was honored by selection as presiding elder, in which capacity he served several years, was treasurer of the west China mission for eight years, and also served as superintendent of the Boys' High School and the Biblical Training School.

After many years of faithful service in the foreign field, during which he passed through many interesting experiences, some of which were none too pleasant, Mr. Myers is now retired from that line of effort and is giving appreciated service as cashier of the Perrysville Bank, at Perrysville, Vermillion county. This bank, which has a capital of ten thousand dollars, was organized on March 28, 1912, with the following officers: President, E. A. Lacy; vice-president, M. J. Rudy; cashier, Quincy A. Myers. Though in operation less than a year, this bank is already numbered among the sound financial institutions of the county, the safe, conservative and careful policy of those in charge of its affairs being a guarantee of its success. These officers are all well-known business men of established character and known ability and the bank is filling a long-felt want in the community.

On November 1, 1893, Mr. Myers was united in marriage with Cora Lacy, the daughter of Elisha A. and Martha E. (Wright) Lacy, who were



from New York state. Mrs. Myers accompanied her husband to China and there proved herself a valuable co-worker with him in the missionary field. To them were born two children, Helen and Kenneth, both being born in China.

Politically, Mr. Myers is a Republican and takes an intelligent interest in public affairs, giving his support to all movements having for their object the uplifting of the race or the amelioration of suffering and undesirable conditions. He is numbered among the best citizens of his community and as such is eminently deserving of representation in this work.

---

### MAJOR JONATHAN M. NICHOLS.

One of the leading men of his day and generation and one of the industrial leaders of Parke county was the late Major Jonathan M. Nichols, for twenty years president of the National Bank of Rockville, and a man whom everybody admired and esteemed for his industry, high sense of honor, public spirit and gentlemanly address. No work purporting to give a historical review of this section of Indiana would be complete were there failure to give his life record a conspicuous place.

Major Nichols was born at Bloomington, Monroe county, Indiana, April 6, 1824, the son of Jonathan and Eliza (Hamilton) Nichols. His father was a native of Tennessee, but in a very early day moved to Indiana and established himself in Monroe county. The elder Jonathan Nichols was a teacher by profession, for which he was peculiarly adapted both by nature and education. He always maintained a deep interest in educational matters and for a long time served as trustee of the State University of Bloomington. He was also a business man of energy and rare soundness of judgment, and he successfully engaged in merchandising for a number of years.

Jonathan M. Nichols was one of ten children. In his childhood he was a pupil in the Bloomington schools and he received a good education. After leaving school he learned the tinner's trade, and after serving his apprenticeship he came to Rockville about 1842, where he followed his trade for a number of years. He then occupied a clerkship, where he remained for some time. During the gold excitement of the historic year 1849 he was one of the many thousands who sought a fortune in the far West. With a party of six young men he made the long, perilous overland trip "to the sundown seas," leaving Rockville March 19th of that year and arriving in the Golden state on Octo-

ber 1st following. He engaged in mining there two years, meeting with fair success. It was not, however, his intention to establish a permanent home in California, and at the expiration of two years he returned as far east as Kentucky, where he remained a short time. Later he clerked in his former home, Rockville, Indiana, and then formed a partnership in the mercantile business with Isaac J. Silliman, which lasted ten years, during which time the firm became widely known in this section of the state. Mr. Silliman then severed his connection, his interest having been purchased by Thompson & McEwen, and the firm of Nichols, Thompson & McEwen was established which lasted until 1864, when the entire concern sold out, and erected a woolen mill, which they operated with great success for a period of ten years, this having been the most extensive manufacturing enterprise ever attempted in Rockville. They erected a large brick factory building on the present site of Rohm Brothers' mill and equipped it with the best machinery then known in weaving wool into cloth. Expert workmen from New England were employed and for a time the industry promised all that its enterprising promoters had hoped for, but the general introduction of shoddy materials a few years after the Rockville factory was established made competition by honest woolen goods out of the question and the local factory was compelled to close. In the meantime Major Nichols was associated with Gen. George K. Steele, Alexander McCune and others in the establishment of the First National Bank of Rockville. They built the beautiful three-story building in which the bank was located from 1868 to November, 1906, when it was destroyed by fire. In 1873 Major Nichols was called to the presidency of this institution and continued at the helm until its affairs were closed out, four years later. At the inception of the National Bank of Rockville in 1877 he accepted the position of president and held the same until 1894 in a manner that reflected much credit upon his ability and honor and to the eminent satisfaction of stockholders and patrons of this popular and sound institution; in fact, its great success may be said to have been due to his wise management and sound judgment. The Major, having accumulated a handsome competency through his long years of business activity, retired from active life in 1894.

In 1855 Major Nichols was married, his wife dying in 1858. His second marriage was with Martha McEwen, and two children, Frank H., now president of the Rockville National Bank, and Maude S., who died in childhood, were born of this last union.

In 1862 Major Nichols laid aside the care of the extensive business with which he was connected and offered his services to his country, and, if need

be, his life, if he could thereby aid the Union cause, enlisting in Company C, Seventy-eighth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and he served with gallantry and distinction as first lieutenant, taking part in many engagements, among them being that at Uniontown, where Captain Howard was killed and the entire company captured as prisoners.

Fraternally, Major Nichols was a Mason. His life work was closely connected with the development of Rockville. As a citizen he was always influenced by motives that did him honor. He was for a number of years a member of the Rockville school board. He was at the time of his death the oldest member of Parke Lodge No. 8, Masonic fraternity, in which he had been a member since 1849. The home and social life of Major Nichols endeared him to everyone. His affection for his family was above all things in his life. Socially, he was a man whose companionship was much sought by the best people of the country. At all times he was a courteous, kindly, hospitable gentleman, always considerate of the rights and wants of others, and he never intentionally gave offense and never by word or deed wronged a fellow man.

After an illness of less than a week, Major Nichols was summoned to his eternal rest at 3 o'clock, Saturday morning, June 5, 1909, his loss being keenly felt by the entire community, and his memory will long be revered by the wide circle of friends he left behind.

---

#### A. J. HUXFORD.

In nearly every community are to be found individuals who, by innate ability and sheer force of character, rise above their fellows and win for themselves conspicuous places in public esteem. Such a one is A. J. Huxford, successful business man and the present popular incumbent of the office of county treasurer of Vermillion county. He has been identified with the history of this locality all his life, his career having been closely interwoven with the material and civic growth of Parke and Vermillion counties, wielding a potent influence in industrial circles, while his record as a progressive man of affairs has been synonymous with all that is honorable.

Mr. Huxford was born in Parke county, Indiana, October 1, 1874, and he is a son of John and Matilda (Driver) Huxford. The father was born in Parke county, this state, on October 19, 1836, and he is still living on the old home place in his native county, having devoted his life successfully to

general agricultural pursuits. His wife, mother of the subject, was summoned to her eternal rest in 1906. The family of these parents consisted of nine children, six of whom are still living.

A. J. Huxford grew to manhood on the home farm and there he assisted with the general work when a boy, receiving his education in the common schools and two years in high school. After leaving school Mr. Huxford took up farming, which he followed four years, thereby getting a good start, then went into the grocery business in Newport, and continued in that with a large measure of success for a period of ten years, during which time he enjoyed a large trade with the town and surrounding country. He was then elected to the office of county treasurer in 1910, and is at this writing incumbent of that office, the important duties of which he is discharging in a manner that reflects much credit upon himself and to the eminent satisfaction of all concerned, irrespective of party alignment.

Mr. Huxford was married in 1896 to Jennie Moring, daughter of John Moring and wife, a highly respected family of this locality. Her father was born in Ohio, from which state he came to Parke county, Indiana, in an early day and there he became well established as a farmer. To the subject and wife one child has been born, Ernest M. Huxford.

Politically, Mr. Huxford is a Democrat and has been loyal in his support of his party's principles. He belongs to Riverside Lodge No. 242, Knights of Pythias, at Newport. He has lived in Newport twelve years, during which time he has done much for the upbuilding of the town, the interests of which he has at heart.

---

#### JOHN H. SPENCER.

Every human being either submits to the controlling influence of others or wields an influence which touches, controls, guides or misdirects others. If he be honest and successful in his chosen field of endeavor, investigation will brighten his fame and point the way along which others may follow with like success. Consequently, a critical study of the life record of John H. Spencer, the present popular and efficient postmaster at Rockville, Parke county, and for many years a prominent citizen there, may be beneficial to the reader, for it has been one of usefulness and honor.

Mr. Spencer was born in Putnam county, Indiana, three miles south of Russellville, July 22, 1864. He is the son of James and Amanda (Crooks) Spencer, both natives of Indiana, the father of Putnam county and the



mother of Parke county. James Spencer was a farmer and stock dealer, and he removed to Jackson township, Parke county, about twenty-seven years ago and lived there until his death, about 1894, at the age of fifty-five years, his birth having occurred in 1839. The mother passed away in 1879, when the subject was fourteen years old. To James Spencer and wife four children were born, of whom two are now living, John H., of this sketch, and James H., of Indianapolis. The father was married, after the death of the subject's mother, to Agnes Cofer, of Jackson township, this county, by whom he had two children, one living at this writing, Mr. Sedalia Wolverton, of Lena, Indiana.

John H. Spencer was reared to manhood on the home farm in Putnam county, where he assisted with the general work and received his primary education in the common schools of his native community. He remained under his parental roof until he was fourteen years old, or until his mother died, after which he worked out on neighboring farms in summer, attending school in Russell township, his native county, in the winter time. Later he attended the normal school at Ladoga, Indiana, for two terms, then entered the Indiana State Normal School at Terre Haute, where he remained three terms. At intervals while attending the above named institutions he taught school in the winter months, for two years in Putnam county, later continuing this line of endeavor for a period of fourteen years in Greene township, Parke county, thus teaching sixteen consecutive years, the last nine years at Guion, Parke county. His long retention at that place is certainly evidence enough of his ability and general satisfaction as a teacher; indeed, he ranked with the foremost educators in this and adjoining counties and was ever in the front rank of his profession his services being in great demand and he gave eminent satisfaction both to pupil and patron, having remained a profound student himself and keeping well abreast of the times in all that pertained to his line of endeavor. He ever manifested an abiding interest in public affairs, and he was elected trustee of Greene township, this county, in 1900, which office he filled to the satisfaction of his constituents until his resignation, in February, 1903, when he was appointed deputy county auditor, where he served three years, or up to March 1, 1906, when he resigned, much against the wishes of many of his friends who had noted his superior ability in this office, to become postmaster at Rockville, the duties of which he has since discharged in a manner that reflects much credit upon himself and to the satisfaction of the people and the department at Washington.

Mr. Spencer is loyal to the tenets of the Republican party and in 1904

he was made chairman of the Republican central committee and did much that year for the success of the party.

In September, 1887, Mr. Spencer was married to Mary E. Smiley, daughter of John S. and Isabelle (Dunn) Smiley, a highly respected family of Greene township, Parke county, Indiana. This family is of Irish ancestry. Mrs. Spencer's grandfather Dunn died while crossing the ocean and was buried at sea. One daughter, Jessie A., died when seven years of age, she having been the only issue to the marriage of the subject and wife.

Fraternally, Mr. Spencer is a member of the Masons, the Knights of Pythias and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He and Mrs. Spencer are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, he being a member of the board of stewards of the same.

Grandfather Spencer was originally a Democrat, having voted for Stephen A. Douglas in 1860 for President, and, like Douglas, he later became a strong defender of the Union and voted for Lincoln at the next election. Grandfather Crooks was a commissioner of Parke county at one time, and the commissioner's record No. 1 in the auditor's office was written by him.

---

### WILLIAM C. WAIT.

In a brief sketch of any living citizen it is difficult to do him exact and impartial justice, not so much, however, for lack of space or words to set forth the familiar and passing events of his personal history, as for want of the perfect and rounded conception of his whole life, which grows, develops and ripens, like fruit, to disclose its true and best flavor only when it is mellowed by time. Daily contact with the man so familiarizes us with his many virtues that we ordinarily overlook them and commonly underestimate their possessor. Nevertheless, while the man passes away, his deeds of virtue live on and will in due time bear fruit and do him the justice which our pen fails to record. There are, however, a number of elements in the life record of William C. Wait, the present able and popular county attorney of Vermillion county and one of the leading attorneys of the section of Indiana of which this volume treats, that even now serve as examples well worthy of emulation, and his fellow citizens are not unappreciative of these. He is a splendid example of the virile, progressive, self-made man who believes in doing well whatever is worth doing at all, a man of keen discernment

and sound judgment, broad minded, public spirited and actuated by honorable impulses, and therefore he enjoys the confidence and good will of all classes.

Mr. Wait was born near Danville, Vermillion county, Illinois, October 21, 1876, and he is a son of William C., Sr., and Sarah M. (Farris) Wait, natives of Illinois. His paternal grandfather, George Wait, was an early settler of Vermillion county, Indiana, and here entered land from the government, near Perrysville, but later moved to Illinois, where the father of the subject was born. William C. Wait, Sr., grew to manhood in his native state and there received a common school education. He devoted his life successfully to agricultural pursuits, and was known as a man of energy, hospitality and scrupulous honesty. His death occurred in May, 1912, at the advanced age of eighty-one years. He was twice married, first, to Catharine Foley, later to Margaret Moudy, four children being born of the latter union, namely: Kate Rogers; Albert N., of Highland township, Vermillion county, Indiana; Sherman, and Grant. His third and last wife was Sarah M. Farris, and four children were also born of this union, named as follows: Mrs. Grace Carithers, of Highland township, this county; Ray C. is cashier of the Palmer National Bank; George B. is farming; and William C., subject of this sketch.

William C. Wait, Sr., was a Democrat, and he belonged to the Masonic order, being the oldest member of Olive Branch Lodge, at Danville, Illinois, at the time of his death, having identified himself with that lodge in 1856.

William C. Wait, the immediate subject of this sketch, was educated in the common schools, the Danville high school and the preparatory school to the University of Illinois. In the last named institution he spent two years as a student in the law department. He then entered the University of Indiana at Bloomington, graduating from the law department in 1900, with the degree of Bachelor of Laws. He came to Newport in 1904 and has since been successfully engaged in the practice of his profession and has built up a large and lucrative clientele, taking rank among the leaders of the local bar. He is known as a careful, painstaking, conscientious advocate who always goes into court thoroughly prepared, and as a speaker he is logical, earnest, interesting and not infrequently truly eloquent. An idea of his high standing as a lawyer and trustworthy public servant may be gained from the fact that Governor Thomas R. Marshall appointed him judge for the forty-seventh judicial circuit, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Hon. Charles W. Ward, in September, 1910, and the able and unbiased manner in which he has discharged the duties of this important position has proven the wisdom of his

selection. He is at this writing county attorney and is giving eminent satisfaction to all concerned, irrespective of party alignment. Politically, he is an ardent Democrat and is a local leader, always active in the ranks. Fraternally, he is a member of the Masonic order, Unity Lodge No. 344, at Perrysville, Indiana; also belongs to Riverside Lodge No. 342, Knights of Pythias, and the Modern Woodmen of America, the two latter at Newport. He is secretary of the Collett Home board and is one of the managers of that institution.

Mr. Wait was married on September 14, 1904, to Nellie M. Rabourn, daughter of William and Dorothy (Carithers) Rabourn, a well known and highly respected family of Williamsport, Indiana. Mrs. Wait is well educated and is a lady of many estimable attributes.

---

#### GEORGE B. STUTHARD.

The reputation George B. Stuthard bears as an engineer is second to none in the Wabash mining district and he has for years been well known in Vermillion county, being in charge at present of the splendid equipment at the Universal mine No. 5, Clinton township, which he manages in a masterly manner, for he had made this line of endeavor his special care, keeping well abreast of the times in all that pertains to it.

Mr. Stuthard was born in Nevins township, Vigo county, Indiana, October 11, 1862. He is a son of David and Ann (McGrannahan) Stuthard, the father having been born near Rockville, Parke county, this state, and the mother was born in Vigo county, Indiana, on the old McGrannahan homestead. David Stuthard grew up in his native community and early in life took up farming, which he continued to follow successfully until his death, in 1897, at the age of sixty-eight years. His father, Richard Stuthard, was one of the early settlers in Parke county. Seven children were born to David Stuthard and wife, namely: Emma, James, George, Rachael, Mary, Henry and George B., of this sketch; there were two half brothers, William Stuthard and Charles White.

George B. Stuthard grew to manhood on his father's farm and there assisted with the general work in the summer time, and during the winter months he attended the neighboring schools. On December 4, 1888, he married Cora Cress, daughter of William and Mary (Webster) Cress, which family were residents of Vigo county, this state. Five children have been



born to Mr. and Mrs. Stuthard, namely: Versa, Mucie, Ethel, Clyde and Thelma, all at home.

Mr. Stuthard has been an engineer for thirty years, also served as master mechanic, together with engineering, for the Bunsen or Universal mine No. 5 in Clinton township, which is one of the finest mines west of the Ohio river, and one of the best equipped plants in Indiana or in the middle West. It is one hundred and forty-six feet deep, all concrete, there being concrete arches. It is equipped to handle two thousand tons daily, and the coal is of a high grade quality. The subject is responsible for the hoisting apparatus and other accessories.

Mr. Stuthard in his fraternal relations belongs to the Free and Accepted Masons and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, both in Illinois. His religious views are in harmony with the creed of the Methodist Episcopal church. Interested in local public affairs, Mr. Stuthard assisted in the incorporation of the town of Westville, Illinois.

---

### JOHN O. STARK.

Among the young men who have made their way to the front in the city of Clinton is the present popular young postmaster, John O. Stark, whose administration of affairs in this capacity has gained for him general commendation and strong support. He is a man who early took an interest in matters relating to the common good, and who can be counted on for aid in every enterprise which promises the betterment of conditions in his city and county. His practical attention to the business which has fallen to his care has rendered him an efficient servant of the government and the public, and to entitle him always to high esteem among the people of his community it is only necessary that he shall continue in the ways and methods which he is now following.

John O. Stark is the son of Mortimer and Josephine (Chambers) Stark, and was born in Jackboro, Texas, on July 29, 1884. He attended the common schools of Indiana and completed his education by graduating from high school. He received the appointment of postmaster from President Taft, through the influence of Senator Albert J. Beveridge, on March 14, 1910.

Mr. Stark was married on December 1, 1911, to Ruth Owen. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity and of the Methodist Episcopal church.

In politics he is a Republican. He has many friends in Clinton and its vicinity, and though, since the years of his life are short, the record of his achievements is necessarily somewhat brief, yet his years have been well filled with substantial work and accomplishments.

---

### S. F. MAX PUETT.

The gentleman whose name initiates this review is eminently deserving of mention in a compilation as is the nature of this one, owing to the fact that he ranks among the leaders of the younger members of the bar of Parke and Vermillion counties, because of his unswerving integrity and his past record which has been fruitful of good results, and among his acquaintances he has ever held an honorable position.

S. F. Max Puett was born on August 3, 1879, in Rockville, Parke county, Indiana, the son of Samuel D. Puett, one of the notable figures of his day and generation in this section of Indiana, a complete sketch of whom appears on other pages of this work.

The subject of this review grew to manhood in his native town and there received his primary education, later attending the Western Military Academy at Upper Alton, Illinois, later the Virginia Military Academy at Lexington, Virginia, after which he took a course at Wabash College, Crawfordsville, Indiana. Early in life he determined upon a legal career and with this end in view he entered his father's office in 1900 and studied law. Making rapid progress, he was admitted to the bar in 1901, and at once began practice in Rockville, where he has remained to the present time, being successful from the start. He is regarded as a painstaking and careful attorney, a trusted advocate and a young man to whom the future must needs hold much of honor and success. However, his regular practice at the bar is curtailed owing to the fact that he is compelled to devote a great deal of his attention to his large landed interests, he and his mother being owners of nineteen hundred acres of valuable, productive and highly improved land, all in Parke county.

Mr. Puett was married on January 1, 1901, to Madge Ott, daughter of David B. Ott, one of the prominent pioneers of this county, the Ott family having been well known and highly respected here from the early settlement of the county to the present time, and here Mrs. Puett grew to womanhood and received her educational training. She is a lady of many estimable traits

and has always been popular in the best social circles. This union has been blessed by the birth of two children, namely: Ott Maxwell Puett, born August 27, 1901, and Samuel D. Puett, born January 15, 1911.

Fraternally, Mr. Puett is a thirty-second-degree Mason, a member of the Blue Lodge at Rockville, the Scottish Rite at Indianapolis, and the Ancient Arabic Order of Nobles of the Mystic Shrine at Terre Haute. He is one of the prominent Masons of western Indiana and it would seem that he endeavors to carry the sublime precepts of Masonry into his everyday life. He is also a member of Lodge No. 483, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, at Crawfordsville. Politically, he is a Democrat and is influential and active in party affairs. He and Mrs. Puett are members of the Presbyterian church.

---

#### SAMUEL DUNCAN PUETT.

One of the distinguished men of a past generation in Parke county and one of the ablest lawyers in this section of Indiana was the late Samuel Duncan Puett. Brilliant, energetic, pious, just, humane, temperate and sincere; uniform, dignified and commanding, yet kind and unostentatious, his example was as edifying to all around him as were the effects of that example lasting, and his memory will long be revered in the hearts of the vast circle of friends who still press onward and upward along the great highway men call life, beside which, weary with the burden, this noble character fell and perished, but whose influence did not cease with the going out of the vital spark.

Mr. Puett was born March 22, 1846, near Rockville, this county. He was the fourth son of Johnson and Palsey (Noel) Puett. His father and mother were children when their parents came from North Carolina to Indiana. Not long afterwards they located in Parke county, near Rockville. From the earliest history of that town until thirty years had passed these two families were most conspicuous in the affairs of the community, material, political, civic and moral; in fact, they did as much if not more than any others of that period for the general upbuilding and progress of the county.

It was the earnest desire of his parents that this son, Samuel D. Puett, should receive a college education. In fulfillment of their wishes he worked his way through school and studiously devoted himself to the gratification of the ambition of his parents. He entered Asbury (now De Pauw) University, at Greencastle, Indiana, completing the course in 1870, having made an excellent record for scholarship.

On May 13, 1873, Mr. Puett was united in marriage to Mamie E. Maxwell, the daughter of Judge Samuel E. Maxwell, and this union was graced by the birth of one son, S. F. Max Puett, a well known young lawyer and business man of Rockville, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this work. Mrs. Puett survives.

Mr. Puett studied law under Judge Maxwell and subsequently became his partner. The death of the Judge occurred in 1877, and for some years Mr. Puett continued the practice alone, rapidly advancing to the front rank of lawyers in western Indiana. Judge Hiram E. Hadley came to Rockville in 1882 and formed a partnership with Mr. Puett. Mr. Hadley finally went to the state of Washington, and Albert M. Adams and J. M. Johns were then associated with Mr. Puett. The latter formed a partnership in 1893 with John S. McFaddin, which continued until the death of the subject of this memoir.

In almost all of the important cases tried in this county during his time, Mr. Puett's services were retained. His untiring industry and great energy, his continuous success as an advocate and his unscrupulous honesty in dealing with his clients and all men, brought to him a lucrative practice and a large and faithful clientage. Ready in resources, fruitful in expedients, of long and varied experience, quick to detect the weak points of his adversary and to bring forward the strong parts of his own case, the great number of important cases he won attests to the great success he so well deserved. He was ever a profound student of all that pertained to the law, to every phase of jurisprudence and to the latest statutes of his state, so that he always went into court fully prepared and ably and conscientiously looked after his clients' interests. As a pleader at the bar he was logical, forceful, convincing and not infrequently truly eloquent.

Samuel D. Puett was never a candidate for office on his own account. In 1876 he was placed on the Democratic electoral ticket and cast his vote for Samuel J. Tilden for President. In all civic affairs he took an active interest. He was repeatedly elected to the school board. In social life he was always a central figure. Fraternally, he was a Mason, belonging to the Scottish Rite and the Ancient Arabic Order of Nobles of the Mystic Shrine. He also held membership with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Knights of Pythias. He was a genial companion at all times; a pleasant word, a kindly greeting, something of jest or repartee, always characterized his meeting with friends and acquaintances. From early life he was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. He regularly attended divine ser-



vice, was a trustee of the local church organization and was a teacher in the Sunday school many years. He was interested in all things having as their object the betterment and upbuilding of Rockville and Parke county, and in the business world he was a powerful factor, a man true to his convictions and to his ideas of right, and firm in his opinions. He rose equal to every occasion. Splendid in his physical manhood, broad minded, social, genial, charitable, whole-souled and kind-hearted, his friends were legion—friends which throughout all his life he literally “grappled to him with hooks of steel.”

Mr. Puett practiced both in the supreme and appellate courts, and men in those bodies as well as in minor courts were a unit in their agreement that he was a man of remarkable powers. His mind was eminently practical and he possessed the valuable faculty of common sense in an unusual degree. His large experience in the management of his own extensive property was exceedingly valuable to him in his profession. He had fine business capacity. From his youth he had large plans. One of the marked traits of his character was his tremendous energy. It moved him like an engine. Every fibre of his mental and physical being seemed surcharged with this quality of intense and compelling energy. He was cast in a large mould, a man of commanding personality, and he attracted attention in any crowd. He was most successful in a business way, becoming one of the men of wealth of his county, leaving landed interests and an estate amounting to a handsome fortune to his widow and son.

The death of Samuel D. Puett occurred suddenly, of apoplexy, on Sunday evening, May 5, 1907, and his sudden demise was a severe shock to his thousands of friends, and a distinct loss to Parke county.

---

#### HON. JAMES T. JOHNSTON.

Upon the roll of representative citizens and prominent and influential public men of Parke county during a past generation consistently appears the name of the late James T. Johnston. He was a resident of this locality for many years, during which time he gradually won his way into the affections of the people, for he possessed those sterling qualities of character which commend themselves to persons of intelligence and the highest morality, so it is no cause for wonder that he achieved so high a position in the general estimation of all who came in touch with him. As a business man, a public servant and a soldier his record is well worthy of careful consideration and

emulation by the youth of the land whose fortunes are yet matters for future years to determine.

Mr. Johnston was born in Putnam county, Indiana, January 10, 1839. He was the oldest child of Anderson and Louise Johnston, and he showed in his large physical build and exceptional mental capacity the sturdy stock of his parentage. He grew to manhood on a farm in his native county and later in life during his professional and official career it was well known that he was a man of sound judgment and keen discernment, also the possessor of unusual practical knowledge of agricultural affairs. He was educated in the common schools of Putnam county, being at one time a pupil of his long-time law partner and friend, the late Thomas N. Rice. He was married February 14, 1866, to Martha Morrison, who died in 1872, leaving one child, Mrs. Mattie Cooper, of Greencastle, Indiana. On November 6, 1873, he was united in marriage to Lucy Daly, in Rockville, with whom he lived happily until his death, she still surviving, making her home in Rockville, where she has a host of friends who know her as a woman of fine intellectual attainments and gracious personality.

James T. Johnston commenced the study of law in 1861 in Greencastle, Indiana, in the office of Williamson & Daggy, and he continued perusing Blackstone and Kent there until in July, 1862, that solemn year of gloom, when he enlisted as a private in Company C, Sixth Indiana Cavalry, in which he served until September, 1863, when he was transferred to Company A, Eighth Tennessee Cavalry, and commissioned second lieutenant, in which capacity he served until January, 1864, when he resigned on account of disability, but later he served as commissary sergeant of the One Hundred and Thirty-third Indiana Volunteer Infantry. He was commissioned lieutenant and assistant quartermaster of the One Hundred and Forty-ninth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and mustered out with that regiment in September, 1865. His military record is one of faithful service from Richmond, Kentucky, in 1862, to Decatur, Alabama, in 1865. It is a record without a blemish, in the desperate and disastrous battle of Richmond, in the gloomy mid-winter campaign of suffering among the bleak mountains of eastern Tennessee in 1863, in battle and skirmish, in honorable wounds borne with fortitude and without vanity. It is a record which his widow and daughter can treasure with silent pride and to which his countrymen can point with proud satisfaction. In appreciation of his record as a soldier for the Union his comrades of the Grand Army of the Republic in 1893 elected him commander of that organization for the department of Indiana, which he filled with unusual ability, to the eminent satisfaction of all concerned.

Mr. Johnston was a Mason and one would have judged from his upright daily life that he endeavored to carry the sublime precepts of this time-honored fraternity into his every relation with his fellow men.

In 1866 Mr. Johnston removed to Rockville, Parke county, and became as thoroughly identified with the people of this locality as "if to the manor born." In the last mentioned year, having studied law and been admitted to the bar, he was elected prosecuting attorney, which office he filled for two years. In 1868 he was elected representative to the state Legislature from Parke county and in 1874 was elected to the state Senate from the counties of Parke and Vermillion, serving four years. He was elected to the forty-ninth Congress, in which he made such a brilliant record that he was re-elected and served with equal credit in the fiftieth Congress, as a Republican, his popularity in his home district being shown by the fact that he was elected by a large plurality, receiving twenty thousand nine hundred and eighteen votes against nineteen thousand eight hundred and sixteen votes cast for Judge John E. Lamb, Democrat. During his term as congressman he served with credit on a number of important committees and rendered valuable and distinguished service, winning the hearty commendation of his constituents; in fact, all concerned, irrespective of party alignment, for he made his influence felt for the general good of his home district in many ways. Meanwhile he was unrelenting in his study and practice of the law, building up a large clientele and taking a front rank at the local bar; in fact, he had few peers in the state, being for many years a conspicuous practitioner in state and federal courts. His knowledge of law was comprehensive and profound, and, ever a student, he kept well abreast of the times in all that pertained to his profession, and was regarded a careful, safe and honorable advocate and a man who wielded a powerful influence with a jury. As a public speaker he was earnest, forceful, convincing and truly eloquent, holding his audience as if spellbound, for the natural gifts of an orator were his. As a citizen he was public spirited and always led in movements looking to the betterment of his community in any way. Socially, he was an old-fashioned neighbor, friendly, hospitable and charitable. He was no recluse. He felt the great immensity of life, was a lover of nature and loved men more than books, although always a great student, his ample and carefully selected library being his closest companion. He loved to call men by their plain names or better by some familiar sobriquet. He delighted in meeting his friends on the street, in shopping places and along the country roads and engage them in short, familiar talks. Some of his friendships seemed singular, almost picturesque, by reason of the persons and the tenacity with which his interest and friend-

ship followed them through evil as well as good report, and these in return never forgot him.

He was fashioned on a large pattern. Nature was prodigal when she built James T. Johnston. He fitted into big occasions, and he quite naturally and with ease took his place with prominent men nationally, and without apology. But there was another trait in his character as marked as any—his tender heartedness. Serious sickness in his family unmanned him and misfortune to his friends greatly disturbed him. He was elemental, and his fine traits of character, his commendable record as a soldier, his useful public career, his worthy characteristics as a private citizen, neighbor, friend, husband and father, so impressed his personality upon all that his memory will linger with the wide circle of friends left to deplore his loss for many years to come.

On July 15, 1909, Mr. Johnston was summoned to his eternal rest, at his beautiful Rockville home, at the age of sixty-five years and six months, his passing away being regarded as a distinct loss to the county and state.

---

#### WILLIAM M. THOMSON.

The life record of William M. Thomson, of Rockville, is too well known to the people of Parke and Vermillion counties to need any extended eulogy here, for his career speaks for itself. He was born in Waveland, Montgomery county, Indiana, November 27, 1833, and is the son of John S. and Mary (Wilson) Thomson, both natives of the state of Ohio, the father born in the city of Springfield and the mother in Hamilton county. John S. Thomson grew to manhood in his native state, and removed to Crawfordsville, Indiana, in January, 1834. He had received a high education for those days and was an educator of note in this part of the country. He came to Indiana as professor of Latin and mathematics in Wabash College, and he spent the rest of his life in Crawfordsville, dying there in 1843. His widow survived many years, dying in Rockville, at the advanced age of ninety years, having been called to her rest only a few years ago.

Five children were born to John S. Thomson and wife, all now deceased but William M., of this review.

Mr. Thomson, of this sketch, received a common school education. He came to Rockville on November 7, 1847, with his mother and P. E. Harris, who was a merchant here for many years. In 1849 Mr. Thomson took a



position in the store of Mr. Harris. Ten years later he went to Pike's Peak, Colorado, and remained in the West about a year. Returning to Rockville, he went into the dry goods business under the firm name of Nichols, Thomson & Company. They also operated a grist-mill, which continued until 1864, when this firm erected the woolen mills. Mr. Thomson continued in business under the firm name of Thompson, McEwen & Bryant, general merchants, until 1884. During the last mentioned year the firm went out of business, and Mr. Thomson bought his present grocery store from Firman Allen and has remained on the present site ever since. He is the oldest business man in Rockville, both in years and in point of business.

Mr. Thomson was married on June 11, 1866, to Emily J. Bryant, daughter of Judge W. T. Bryant and Maria Bryant. Judge Bryant was judge of his judicial district for many years and afterwards was chief justice of Oregon Territory, having been appointed by President James K. Polk. Mrs. Thompson was born in Rockville, Parke county, in the house in which she is now living, and here they have lived since their marriage. They have the following children: William B., who is associated with his father in the store; Mary P. is the wife of A. H. Stark, president of the Parke State Bank at Rockville; Jennie P., wife of Howard Maxwell, a leading attorney of Rockville.

Politically, Mr. Thomson is a Republican, having been loyal to its principles from the time of its organization in 1856 to the present.

---

#### ISAAC R. STROUSE.

There is no nobler profession in all the world than that of journalism, if it be honest and if it be free. The privilege to tell the truth, and the privilege to be kind; the high and unquestioned right to be just, and the joy of championing all good causes and all right things—in these elements journalism has no superior and scarcely an equal among the vocations which belong to man. The modern country newspaper presents to the mind most vividly the vast strides that have been made in mechanics, in political morals, in social relations, in religious tenets,—in fact, along the entire gamut of human endeavor. It marks with peculiar stamp the civilization of the present day.

A journalist of more than local renown is Isaac R. Strouse, editor of the *Rockville Tribune*, a country newspaper of no ignoble type. Mr. Strouse,





MRS. JULIET V. STROUSE.



ISAAC R. STROUSE.





who is a fine type of a citizen and a man of state-wide reputation, is a native of Rockville, Indiana, born on December 12, 1859, and is the son of Samuel and Mary Frances (Baker) Strouse, the father a native of Bavaria, Germany, and the mother of Shelbyville, Kentucky.

Samuel Strouse came to Rockville in 1843 and engaged in the live stock and livery business, remaining here until his death, which occurred in 1898. His wife had died in 1878. They were the parents of seven children, four of whom are now living, the other three being David Strouse, Mrs. Ared F. White and Mrs. E. A. Puett, the latter of Long Beach, California.

Isaac R. Strouse received a public school education in Rockville until sixteen years of age, when he left school and entered the office of the *Indiana Patriot* to learn the "art preservative." Joseph B. Cheadle soon afterwards bought this paper and changed its name to the *Rockville Tribune*. Mr. Strouse set the first type and printed the first edition of the new paper on an old hand press, and, with the exception of one year, when he was employed as a railroad fireman, he has been connected with the *Tribune* ever since. In 1882 he purchased of John H. Beadle a half interest in the paper, prior to which time he had for two years served the paper as local editor and printer. In 1889 Mr. Strouse purchased his partner's interest in the plant and since has been in full control. Under Mr. Beadle's management the paper had been an independent journal, but when Mr. Strouse secured the paper he made it Democratic, and few papers in Indiana can point to so consistent an editorial record as that of the *Tribune*. Since that day it has been a steadfast advocate of the undying principles of Democracy as formulated by Thomas Jefferson and enunciated by William Jennings Bryan. It has consistently advocated free trade since 1882 and it claims that it has lived to see many of its early predictions come true, such as the formation of great industrial combinations which, it predicted, would be the inevitable outgrowth of the protective tariff. The *Tribune* is especially vigilant in its championship of progressive Democracy as advocated by Mr. Bryan, to whose political tenets it has, in season and out of season, given uncompromising allegiance and unswerving devotion. Its discussion of all issues upon which men and parties divide has been such as to make it a potent factor in the local body politic, and few newspapers in western Indiana are more often quoted. But, faithful and discriminating as may have been its characterization of public virtues and public discrepancies, fearless as may have been its presentations of its political creed, perhaps its greatest claim to local renown is as a local newspaper.

for there are no better in the Wabash country. For over a quarter of a century the *Tribune* has made its weekly visits into hundreds of the best homes of Parke county. Manifold have been its pulse throbs of passing events during these years. It has rejoiced with the people in their hours of victory and consoled with them in their hours of sorrow. To serve such a clientele is no slight responsibility, for even the humble and unpretending newspaper that goes regularly into the home contributes, imperceptibly perhaps, but none the less surely, to the intellectual growth of all the people therein.

Isaac R. Strouse was married on December 22, 1881, to Juliet Virginia Humphreys, a native of Rockville and a daughter of William and Susan Marcia (King) Humphreys, the latter a woman of rare talent and education, gifted with a finely developed mind and a taste for the finer and better things in literature and art. Mrs. Strouse doubtless inherited from her gifted mother many of these traits, for she is herself a woman of decided literary accomplishments, and enjoying a national reputation. For over twenty years she has regularly conducted a department in the *Tribune*. For over ten years she has conducted a department in the *Indianapolis News* under the heading of "The Country Contributor," and for over six years she has had a special department in the *Ladies' Home Journal* under the caption of "Ideas of a Plain Country Woman." She has also contributed short stories and special articles to the magazine and periodical press of the country. "The Ideas of a Plain Country Woman" was published in book form by Doubleday, Page & Company and was reprinted in England. Mrs. Strouse's writings are strikingly original, possess a wholesome charm and breathe a homespun philosophy that makes them an interesting and distinctive feature of any publication in which they appear.

To the home of Mr. and Mrs. Strouse have been born two children, namely: Marcia Frances, the wife of Claude Ott, of Rockville, and Sarah Katharine, the deceased wife of Harold A. Henderson, of Rockville.

In 1893 Mr. Strouse was appointed by Governor Matthews a trustee of the Indiana Institute for the Blind, in which position he served two years. In 1898 Governor Mount appointed him a major in the Indiana National Guard, but he declined the appointment. In 1907 Governor Hanly appointed him a member of the commission to select and purchase a site and erect the buildings for the Indiana Tuberculosis Hospital. Mr. Strouse was secretary of the commission, which spent one hundred and sixty thousand dollars for the purpose designated. It is a noteworthy fact that Mr. Strouse's accounts

tallied to a cent with those of the auditor of state. It was partly through his efforts, in co-operation with the citizens of Rockville, that the hospital was located at that place. On the completion of the hospital Governor Marshall appointed Mr. Strouse a member of the board of three trustees to manage the same, in which capacity he is now ably serving the state.

It is needless to say that Mr. Strouse is a progressive and influential citizen of Rockville, a community which has long been noted for the high order of its citizenship. He is interested in every movement that has for its object the betterment of the civic and moral forces of the community and no citizen stands higher in the estimation of those who know the worth of a man.

---

#### ALLAN T. BROCKWAY.

The subject of this sketch is not the example of a man whom the inscrutable caprice of fortune or fate has suddenly placed in an important and successful position in the business world, but he has attained to the same through long years of persistent toil and unflagging endeavor, for he realized early in his career that success comes to the deserving, and that to be deserving one must be industrious and persistent, honorable and straightforward; so he forged ahead, surmounting obstacles that would have daunted and diverted the course of less courageous spirits.

Allan T. Brockway, the present able and popular cashier of the Rockville National Bank, Rockville, Parke county, was born in Greencastle, Indiana, December 30, 1872, and is a son of Alva and Sarah E. (McCarty) Brockway. The father was a native of Erie, Pennsylvania, and he came to Greencastle, Indiana, about 1858 and there began the manufacture of wooden pumps, in which he met with much success and which business he finally sold to Cale Brothers. The elder Brockway became one of the leading business men of Greencastle and there he spent the rest of his life, dying in September, 1908. The mother of the subject still lives in Greencastle. Two children were born to these parents, Allan T., of this review, and Edwin, who lives in Greencastle.

Allan T. Brockway grew to manhood in Greencastle and there he received a good common school education, later spending three years in De Pauw University, at that place. He began life for himself by accepting a position in the Central National Bank of Greencastle, where he remained five



years, giving eminent satisfaction and mastering the basic principles of the banking business. He came to Rockville in April, 1899, to accept a position as assistant cashier of the Rockville National Bank, and in 1908 he became cashier, which position he is still holding to the eminent satisfaction of the stockholders and patrons of the bank, being well posted on every phase of modern banking methods, scrupulously honest and courteous to all patrons.

Mr. Brockway was married on June 22, 1899, to Frank M. McCune, daughter of Samuel M. and Evaline K. (Kirkpatrick) McCune, her father having at one time been president of the Rockville National Bank, and for many years a prominent citizen there.

Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Brockway, namely: Evaline is twelve years of age; Louise is ten years old; Frances has passed her seventh birthday; and Marian is an infant.

Fraternally, Mr. Brockway is a member of the Knights of Pythias and the Masonic order and, religiously, he and his wife belong to the Presbyterian church. Politically, he is a Republican. He was a member of the local school board for a period of five years, and he takes a deep interest in the affairs of his town and county generally.

---

#### RAYMOND E. SWOPE, M. D.

Concentration of purpose and persistently applied energy rarely fail of success in the accomplishment of any task, however great, and in tracing the career of Dr. Raymond E. Swope, one of the best known of the younger physicians of Parke and Vermillion counties, it is plainly seen that these things have been the secrets of his rise to a position of prominence and respectability. Moreover, he possesses genuine love for his work and regards it as a privilege to carry comfort and aid to the sick and suffering.

Dr. Swope was born in Stilesville, Hendricks county, Indiana, November 25, 1872. His parents were Samuel and Elizabeth A. (Brown) Swope, the father a native of Kentucky and the mother of Indiana. They are both now deceased. Samuel Swope devoted his life to the undertaking business. He and his wife became the parents of four children, all still living.

Dr. Swope received a common school education at Stilesville, also attended the high school at Crawfordsville, Indiana. He then for a time worked at the undertaking business with his father. In the fall of 1896 he entered Indiana Medical College at Indianapolis, where he made an excellent

record for scholarship, and he was graduated from that institution with the class of 1900, having been a member of the first class to graduate under the four-year ruling. He began the practice of his profession in Putnam county, but remained there only a short time, coming to Rockville, Parke county, in April, 1907, and here he has since remained and has built up a very satisfactory and rapidly growing practice, his past success auguring much promise for the future.

Dr. Swope was married on June 30, 1909, to Elizabeth A. Ott, of Rockville, a daughter of Baxter Ott, one of the excellent old families of this place.

Fraternally, Dr. Swope belongs to the Masonic order and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Politically, he is a Republican, and he and his wife belong to the Presbyterian church. He holds membership in the Parke County Medical Society and the State Medical Association. He is secretary of the local pension board, of the United States board of examining surgeons and in this capacity is giving eminent satisfaction. He is also first lieutenant in Battery C, Indiana National Guard, at Rockville. He takes a deep interest in the affairs of his town and county and is a young man of fine character.

---

#### PETER PENCE.

It will inevitably be found, if an examination be made into the records of self-made men, that untiring industry forms the basis of their success. It is true that many other elements enter in, such as fortitude, perseverance, keen discernment and honesty of purpose which enable one to recognize business opportunities; but the foundation of all worthy achievement is earnest, persistent labor. The gentleman whose name forms the caption of this article recognized these facts early in life and did not seek to gain any short or magical method to the goal of prosperity. On the contrary he began to work earnestly and diligently in order to advance himself along laudable lines and from an humble beginning he became one of the leading agriculturists and stock raisers in Parke county. Mr. Pence is one of the venerable and highly esteemed citizens of this locality, now living in quiet retirement at his cozy home in Rockville, enjoying the respite due a long and strenuous career. He is one of the veterans of what is universally conceded to be the greatest war of all history, having served his country most faithfully during her darkest hours.

Peter Pence was born in Florida township, Parke county, Indiana, September 3, 1844, the son of Andrew and Sarah (Bloomhuff) Pence. The father was born in Adams county, Ohio, May 27, 1811, and the mother was born in Brown county, Ohio, on August 18, 1811. They grew to maturity in their native state and were married there, and about 1840 they came to Parke county, Indiana, locating in Florida township, where they became well established through their industry and were well known and highly respected. They spent their lives engaged in general farming. In 1878 they removed to Nodaway county, Missouri, where they spent the rest of their lives, the father dying at the advanced age of eighty-seven years, the mother having preceded him to the grave five years. They were the parents of twelve children, four of whom are now living, namely: William, who resides in Nodaway county, Missouri, where John also makes his home; Andrew B. lives in Nowater, Oklahoma; and Peter, of this sketch.

The Pence family is of Dutch descent.

Peter Pence grew to manhood on the home farm and there he assisted with the general work about the place when of proper age, and he received a good practical country school education. About this period the great Civil war commenced, and, although but eighteen years of age, he enlisted, in 1863, in the Eleventh Indiana Cavalry, One Hundred and Twenty-sixth Regiment, and served two years or until the close of the war, seeing considerable hard service in a number of important campaigns and battles, including the sanguinary engagements at Franklin and Nashville, Tennessee, also many skirmishes, in all of which he conducted himself as becomes a gallant American soldier.

After receiving an honorable discharge, Mr. Pence returned to his home in Parke county and took up farming on his own account in Wabash and Florida townships, and later in Adams township.

Mr. Pence was married on October 22, 1871, to Catherine Hixon, who was born in Parke county, Indiana, April 23, 1850, a native of Wabash township, where her people were well known and influential, her parents being James and Eliza (Wannamaugher) Hixon, the father a native of Parke county, Indiana, born August 31, 1824, and her mother was born in Ohio, April 20, 1825. James Hixon was accidentally killed at Mecca bridge, September 30, 1892. Mrs. Eliza Hixon died in Terre Haute, Indiana, December 29, 1909, at the advanced age of eighty-four years, eight months and nine days. The Hixon family is of Dutch extraction on the mother's side, and of

Scotch-Irish descent on the paternal side. Mrs. Pence is one of five children living, five others having died in childhood.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Pence went to housekeeping in Florida township, this county, and they soon ranked among the leading farmers of the same, laying by a comfortable competency as the years advanced. They lived in Wabash township from 1878 to 1903, when they retired from active life and removed to their commodious home in Rockville, where they have since lived, enjoying the fruits of their former years of toil and endeavor, but retaining their fine farm in Wabash township.

One child has blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Pence, Ellis Pence, who lives on the home farm in Wabash township, where he is making a pronounced success as a farmer and stock raiser. He married Mollie Hardin, who was born in Montgomery county, Indiana. They have had eight children, seven of whom are now living, namely: Helen, Madge Marie, Murl Eliza, Catherine, Margaret (deceased), Maynard Hardin, Alice Lavear, and Marie Louise.

Mr. and Mrs. Pence belong to the Methodist Episcopal church, of which they are liberal supporters. Politically, he is a stanch Republican, but has never sought public honors, though he was trustee of Wabash township for two terms, giving eminent satisfaction to all concerned in this capacity. Fraternally, he belongs to the Knights of Pythias. He is a man of scrupulous honesty, public spirit, hospitable and a pleasant man to know, always plain and unassuming.

---

#### SAMUEL THOMAS CATLIN.

Parke county is rich in honored sons, but none is more worthy of historical record than the late Samuel T. Catlin, a man who was content to spend his long, useful and honorable life right here at home, and he did much to further the material, civic and moral interests of the county and in his day and generation no citizen of Parke was better or more favorably known. He was a successful man in business affairs, accumulating a large and valuable estate through his own efforts, by his industry, thrift and able management and he was a public servant against whose record there never was a shadow of suspicion. And now that he has, like a sheaf fully ripened, been gathered in by "the reaper whose name is Death," his influence still survives, making better and brighter the lives of those who came in close contact with him, for



his life was led along a noble plan of endeavor, and he left behind him a record of which his family and friends may well be proud and cause his memory to long be revered.

Mr. Catlin was born in Florida township, Parke county, Indiana, June 25, 1836, and was a son of Hiram and Mary (Gentle) Catlin, a sterling old pioneer family. He was reared on the old home farm, where he continued to reside, carrying on general farming and stock raising on an extensive scale and in a successful manner until 1886, when he removed to Rockville, where he spent the latter years of his life, his death occurring here on December 7, 1908, in his seventy-third year.

Mr. Catlin was educated in the public schools of his native community and at Bloomingdale Academy. Preparing himself for a teacher, he followed that line of endeavor in a most successful manner for several years. Had he continued in that vocation he doubtless would have become one of our leading educators. He, however, liked an outdoor life best and abandoned the school room to engage in farming and stock raising near the town of Catlin and in due course of time became one of the substantial and successful agriculturists of that part of the county.

Mr. Catlin always took an active and prominent part in public affairs, and in 1886 was elected auditor of Parke county, which office he filled in a manner that reflected much credit upon himself and to the eminent satisfaction of all concerned for a period of eight years, and he is remembered today as one of the best county officers Parke has ever had. In 1897 he was elected president of the Rockville National Bank, which responsible position he held until his death, and the large success of this popular institution was due in no small measure to his able management, wise counsel and sound judgment.

Mr. Catlin was married on March 24, 1862, to Elizabeth Harshman, a woman of many commendable traits and the representative of a fine old family. To this union two sons were born, Hiram Wesley Catlin, whose death occurred on May 15, 1873, and Thomas H. Catlin, of Dana and Rockville.

Mr. Catlin was a man of highest probity, an energetic, painstaking business man, a man of the most attractive and entertaining social qualities, a great lover of nature, who was fond of youth and who was admired by young men; a man of vast information, being widely read. He was for many years a member of the Methodist church, and a most liberal supporter of the same. Fraternally, he belonged to Catlin Lodge and Parke Chapter, Free and Accepted Masons. In his death Parke county lost one of her foremost citizens, one who helped make its best history, and a man whose memory coming generations will ever honor.

## C. W. OVERPECK, M. D.

As a physician Dr. C. W. Overpeck, of Rockville, is known as a man of high attainments and practical ability, and as one who has achieved success in his profession because he has worked for it persistently and in channels of honest endeavor. His rapidly growing prestige as one of the leading younger physicians of Parke and Vermillion counties stands in evidence of his ability and likewise serves a voucher for his intrinsic worth of character. His career has been wisely founded on the premise that perseverance, integrity and fidelity to duty will lead to success, and he has thus used his intellect to the best purpose.

Dr. Overpeck was born in Parke county, Indiana, the representative of one of our sterling old families, his birth occurring on July 17, 1879. His parents were T. H. and Cynthia A. (Ball) Overpeck. The father was born on a farm in Adams township, this county, and he still lives on the place on which he was born, being now seventy-six years of age. He has devoted his life to agricultural pursuits and stock raising and has met with a larger degree of success than falls to the average tiller of the soil. He has kept the old place which his father settled in pioneer days, well improved and carefully cultivated so that it has retained its original fertility and richness of soil. His wife, who is still living, is also a native of Adams township, being the daughter of another highly respected old family. To T. H. Overpeck and wife six children have been born, namely: Mrs. Ella Ball, of Annapolis, Indiana; Mrs. Will Neet lives near Rockville; Frank L. also lives near Rockville; Perley H. lives south of Rockville; and Dr. C. W., of this review.

Dr. Overpeck was reared on the home farm and there he assisted with the general work when a boy, attending the rural schools in his neighborhood during the winter months at Wesley Chapel school. He spent one year at Bloomingdale Academy and one year at De Pauw University. His medical training began in 1899, when he entered Indiana Medical College at Indianapolis, where he made an excellent record and from which institution he was graduated with the class of 1904. He soon thereafter returned to Parke county and began practicing at the village of Catlin, near where he was reared, remaining three and one-half years there, being successful from the start. In the spring of 1907 he came to Rockville, where he has since remained and has built up a large and constantly growing practice with the town and surrounding country, maintaining a neat and well equipped office in the Rockville National Bank building.

Dr. Overpeck was married on April 23, 1904, to Luana H. Baker, daughter of Samuel Baker, well known citizen of Rockville. This union has resulted in the birth of one child, Evelyn Louise.

Fraternally, Dr. Overpeck belongs to the Masons, Knights of Pythias and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He is also a member of the Parke County Medical Society and the American Medical Association. Politically, he is a Democrat and is loyal in his support of the party, though he does not find time from his general practice to take a very active part in public affairs. He served very acceptably and ably as coroner of Parke county for a period of two years, from 1908 to 1910.

---

#### HOWARD MAXWELL.

In no profession is there a career more open to talent than is that of the law, and in no field of endeavor is there demanded a more careful preparation, a more thorough appreciation of the absolute ethics of life or of the underlying principles which form the basis of all human rights and privileges. Unflagging application and determination fully to utilize the means at hand are the concomitants which insure personal success and prestige in this great profession, which stands as the stern conservator of justice and in the practice of which success comes only as the legitimate result of capability. Possessing all the requisite qualities of the able lawyer, Howard Maxwell stands today among the eminent practitioners of the Parke county bar.

Howard Maxwell is a native of the county which is now honored by his citizenship, having been born at Rockville on September 1, 1865. He is the scion of one of the prominent old families of Parke county, his parents having been David H. and Anna F. (Smith) Maxwell, the former a native of Indiana and the latter of Ohio. David H. Maxwell, who was born in 1825 and whose death occurred on September 13, 1903, was a lawyer by profession and for over a half century he was one of the leading members of the local bar, having been connected with most of the important litigation in this county. His ability as a lawyer was supplemented by the highest personal qualities of character. He was survived several years by his widow, whose death occurred on April 15, 1912. They were the parents of two children, the subject of this sketch and Dr. Hugh S. Maxwell, of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Howard Maxwell received his elementary education in the public schools of Rockville, being a graduate of the high school. He then attended Indiana State University one year and then for three years was a student at Wabash College, where he was graduated in 1886. During the following year he was engaged in teaching school and then, having determined to make the practice of law his life work, he began its study in the office of his father. In 1887 he was admitted to the bar and was thereafter associated with his father in the practice of his profession until the latter's death, in 1903. He then practiced alone until June, 1907, when he formed his present partnership with John S. McFadden.

As a lawyer Mr. Maxwell evinces a familiarity with legal principles and a ready perception of facts, together with the ability to apply the one to the other, which has won him the reputation of a safe and sound practitioner. Years of conscientious work have brought with them not only increase of practice and reputation, but also that growth in legal knowledge and that wide and accurate judgment the possession of which constitutes marked excellence in the profession. In the trial of cases he is uniformly courteous to court and opposing counsel, caring little for display, but seeking to impress the jury rather by weight of facts in his favor and by clear, logical argument than by appeal to passion or prejudice. In discussions of the principles of law he is noted for clearness of statement and candor, his zeal for a client never leading him to urge an argument which in his judgment is not in harmony with the law, and all the important litigation with which he has been connected no one has ever charged him with anything calculated to bring discredit upon himself or cast a reflection upon his profession. Mr. Maxwell possesses exceptional powers as a speaker whether at the bar or in public discourse and is forcible and persuasive, though never offensive.

In 1894 Mr. Maxwell was elected prosecuting attorney of the fifty-seventh judicial circuit and held that office for two terms, having also been deputy prosecuting attorney for four years prior to his election. For several years he rendered good service as counsel for the board of county commissioners, in which capacity he always stood for the best interests of all the people. He was appointed county attorney, holding the office twelve years, or until his resignation in 1911. In 1908 he was the Republican nominee for Congress in the fiftieth congressional district, but in the general landslide of that year he met defeat with the remainder of the ticket. He was a member of the Rockville school board for several years, having always taken a deep interest in educational matters, but he resigned that position on accepting the



nomination for Congress. It is worthy of note that Mr. Maxwell has never lost any appointive office held by him except by resignation.

In business affairs Mr. Maxwell has been successful, his ripe judgment and persistent energy insuring success in that field as well as professionally. He is a stockholder and director in the Rockville National Bank and is a member of the company which erected the splendid opera house at Rockville.

Politically, Mr. Maxwell is a stanch Republican from honest convictions and he has taken an active and influential part in the campaigns of his party ever since attaining his majority. Fraternally, he is a member of the Free and Accepted Masons. While in college, he became a member of the Beta Theta Pi fraternity.

On December 27, 1894, Mr. Maxwell was united in marriage to Jennie Thomson, the daughter of William M. Thomson, one of the pioneer citizens of Rockville, and this union has been blessed in the birth of three children, Margaret, Warren and Richard.

---

#### A. B. LOCKRIDGE, M. D.

Although yet a young man, Dr. A. B. Lockridge, of Rockville, has had a wonderful success in alleviating the ills and sufferings of his fellow men, and in Parke county he is regarded as a credit to the noble profession in which he has been engaged for several years. When but a boy he manifested a laudable ambition to become a medical practitioner, and when his common school days came to an end his parents decided that the longing of his heart should be gratified and he was given every advantage possible to make him what he is today, a well rounded, capable and talented general practitioner.

Dr. Lockridge was born in Greencastle, Indiana, August 22, 1879. He is the son of Albert O. and Jessie (Birch) Lockridge, the father a native of Putnam county, this state, and the mother of Bloomington, Illinois, although she spent most of her life in Putnam county, Indiana. At this writing Albert O. Lockridge is postmaster at Greencastle and an influential citizen there. In fact, the Lockridge family is one of the oldest and most prominent in Putnam county. Two children were born to Albert O. Lockridge and wife, Dr. A. R., and Elizabeth, of Kansas City.

Dr. Lockridge received his education in the public and high schools of Greencastle and later entered De Pauw University, also in that city. He re-

ceived his medical training at the Indiana Medical College at Indianapolis, where he made a splendid record and from which institution he was graduated with the class of 1906. Soon thereafter he went to Parke county, Indiana, and began practice at the town of Montezuma, remaining there two years, and in 1908 he came to Rockville, where he has built up a large and lucrative patronage, his practice extending all over the county, and he is regarded as one of the leading younger members of his profession in Parke and Vermillion counties.

Dr. Lockridge was married on December 6, 1906, to Edna Arnold, of Greencastle, Indiana, and a young lady of many commendable attributes, the representative of an excellent family.

Dr. Lockridge is a member of the American Medical Association, the Indiana State Medical Association and the Parke County Medical Society. He also belongs to the Beta Theta Pi, of Greencastle, and the Phi Chi, of the Indiana Medical College. Fraternally, he holds membership with the Knights of Pythias at Rockville. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and politically is a Republican, and, while he has neither the time nor the inclination to mix very extensively in public affairs, he is always ready to support any movement that has for its object the improvement of his town and county in any way.

---

#### ISAAC A. PICKARD.

There can be no greater honor or privilege than to conscientiously serve one's country during its days of peril. It requires something more than patriotic zeal for a man to forsake home, business, the pleasures of social or public life and voluntarily assume the hardships of the camp and the field, much less risk one's life in the brunt of battle, and the younger generation of today are apt to not give the respect due the honored "boys in blue" who saved the nation's integrity and who did so much for them. Isaac A. Pickard, one of Parke county's worthy native sons, who for many years was one of her leading business men and commendable public servants and who is now living retired in his pleasant home in Rockville, is one of the Northland's brave veterans who is eminently deserving of the high esteem in which he is universally held.

Mr. Pickard was born in Sugar Creek township, Parke county, Indiana, October 14, 1845. His parents were Isaac W. and Sarah (Ephlin) Pickard.

The father was born in North Carolina, as was also the mother, and they spent their earlier years in the old Tar state. Isaac W. Pickard came from his far-away old Southern home to Parke county, Indiana, about 1830, and was thus among the early settlers, locating in Liberty township, where he began life in typical pioneer fashion. He devoted his life to farming and was a local preacher of the United Brethren church and a good and useful man. He died in Sugar Creek township in 1854, at the early age of forty-eight years. His wife survived nearly a half century, dying at an advanced age in 1899. They were the parents of eleven children, seven of whom are living at this writing, namely: John S., of Sugar Creek township; William M., of Liberty township; Amanda M., widow of James H. Russell, of Rockville; Sarah C., widow of George Moore, of Sugar Creek township; Mary M., widow of Joseph Harvey, of Liberty township; Mirinda, wife of Joseph Thompson, of Sugar Creek township, and Isaac A., of this review.

Isaac A. Pickard was reared on the home farm, where he remained until he was seventeen years of age, working on the farm during the crop seasons and attending the rural schools in the winter time. He went from the farm to participate in the Civil war, enlisting in Company A, Eighty-fifth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, in which he served over two years with much credit and gallantry, seeing considerable hard service, participating in many engagements, including the battles of Resaca, Peach Tree creek, and those incident to the Atlanta campaign. After the fall of that stronghold he accompanied his regiment in its march with Sherman's army to the sea, and after taking the city of Savannah, went on through the Carolinas, participating in the battle of Averashoro, then on to Raleigh, and was in that city at the close of the war. He marched from Raleigh to Richmond, Virginia, thence to Washington City, where he took part in the Grand Review. He and other soldiers were sent from Washington on flat cars to Parkersburg, Virginia, where they took a boat to Louisville, Kentucky. Being discharged he came on home, and soon resumed farming in Sugar Creek township, which he continued for one year. He then took a term in a graded school, desiring to complete his education in Fountain county, Indiana. Later he worked at the carpenter's trade and was also in the livery business for a while. He moved to Rockville in 1884 and has since resided here.

Taking a deep interest in public affairs, Mr. Pickard was elected county treasurer in 1884 on the Republican ticket, and, making a most commendable record therein, he was re-elected to that important office in 1886, thus serving two terms with much credit.

Mr. Pickard was married on January 2, 1870, to Josephine Brockway, who was born in Liberty township, this county, the daughter of Hiram and Indiana (Laberty) Brockway. To this union have been born the following children: Alvis Burnie, deceased; Gloria May, wife of Lee Woolery, of Tombstone, Arizona; Louis Aquilla lives on a farm in Penn township, Parke county; Sadie is the wife of Henry Haines, of Indianapolis; Isaac A., Jr., lives at home.

Mr. Pickard belongs to the Grand Army of the Republic. Fraternally, he is a member of the Masonic order at Rockville. He is a Republican in his political affiliations. Personally, he is a plain, unassuming and obliging gentleman who has a host of friends.

---

C. C. MORRIS, M. D.

The physician who would succeed in his profession must possess many qualities of head and heart not included in the curriculum of the schools and colleges he may have attended. In analyzing the career of the successful practitioner of the healing art it will inevitably be found true that a broad-minded sympathy with the sick and suffering and an honest, earnest desire to aid his fellow men have gone hand in hand with skill and able judgment. The gentleman to whom this brief tribute is given, Dr. C. C. Morris, one of the best known general practitioners in Parke and Vermillion counties, fortunately embodies these necessary qualifications in a marked degree, and by energy and application to his professional duties has built up an enviable reputation and has drawn to himself a large and remunerative practice, being recognized not only as one of the leading physicians of this locality, but as a man of honor and integrity at all times.

Dr. Morris is one of the county's native sons and the scion of one of our worthiest pioneer families, his birth having occurred in Washington township, Parke county, Indiana, August 8, 1848, and he is a son of Exum and Eleanor (Newlin) Morris, both natives of North Carolina, the father having come north about 1838, first locating in Orange county, Indiana, later removing to Vermillion county, Illinois. In about 1842 he removed with his family to Parke county, locating on a farm a mile and a half east of Bloomingdale, known now as the Mendenhall farm. He lived there until 1860, when he sold the place and moved to Plainfield, Hendricks county.



where he lived until his death, which occurred about a year later, in 1862, at the age of sixty-two years, having been born in 1800. The mother of the subject then moved to a farm which she bought near Rockville, Parke county, where her death occurred in 1865. Ten children were born to these parents, only three of whom are living at this writing, namely: Mrs. Anna J. Wilson, of Topeka, Kansas; Mrs. Joshua K. Trueblood, of Long Beach, California, and Dr. C. C., of this review.

Dr. Morris grew to manhood on the home farm, where he made himself generally useful during his boyhood days. He received his primary schooling in the rural schools and at the Bloomingdale Academy, later taking a collegiate course at the State University at Bloomington. He prepared himself for a teacher, which profession he followed with success for a period of three years, but not finding the same entirely to his liking he entered Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, in 1874, from which historic institution he was graduated with the class of 1876. He at once took up the practice of medicine at Rockville, Indiana, where he has remained to the present time, with ever-increasing success, having remained a profound student of all that pertains to his profession and having kept well abreast of the times in every advancement in the same, and his name has long since become a household word throughout this locality, being now one of the oldest practitioners in the county.

Dr. Morris was married on June 29, 1876, to Alice Canaday, who was born and reared near Georgetown, Vermillion county, Indiana, and is the daughter of William Canaday and wife. Four children have been born to this union, namely: Jesse C., who lives at Green River, Utah; Stella is the wife of Dick Ott, one of the leading druggists of Rockville, Indiana; Mary is the wife of Roger H. Miller, of Los Angeles, California; Morrill Justin, who spent two years in Wabash College after his graduation from the Rockville high school, entered the Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, and is now in his second year in that institution.

Dr. Morris is a member of the Parke County Medical Society, the Indiana Medical Society and the American Medical Association. Fraternally, he is a member of the Masonic order and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and politically he is a Republican and at present he is ably serving the county as a health commissioner, which office he has held for many years. He is medical inspector for the schools of Adams township. He has long led every movement for bettering the health and sanitary conditions of the county. He was influential in getting the state tuberculosis hospital located at Rockville, and he is president of the county organization having for its

object the prevention of tuberculosis, his work in this line having made him widely known over western Indiana.

Grandfather Newlin, mentioned above, was a pioneer of Parke county. He gave a church and a large grove to the town of Bloomingdale, it being a Quaker church. His death occurred at the advanced age of ninety-nine years. Dr. Morris' father was also a prominent Quaker and was instrumental in founding the Bloomingdale Academy.

---

### EWING CHAPMAN.

The old-fashioned notion that hard work, patient industry and far-sightedness make for success in the various avenues of life does not seem to be accepted so unreservedly in our day. The spread of pessimism engendered by many phases of our complex life is in a great measure responsible for the lack of faith in the old idea. However, if we observe conditions closely we will find that the intelligent individual who leads a practical and industrious life will reach a point of success commensurate with his efforts. The life of Ewing Chapman will afford us an instance of this. For many years he ranked as one of the most popular and efficient educators of the section of the Hoosier commonwealth of which this volume treats, but finally, tiring of that vocation, he turned his attention to business affairs and has for some time been conducting a furniture and undertaking establishment in the town of Rockville, Parke county, being regarded as one of the most representative citizens of that place.

Mr. Chapman was born September 1, 1874, in Jackson township, Parke county, Indiana. His parents were Nathan and Minerva (Miller) Chapman, the father born in Missouri and the mother in Putnam county, Indiana. Nathan Chapman has devoted his life to agricultural pursuits, in which he has met with a large measure of success, and he is now living in Greencastle, Indiana, still owning his finely improved farm in Parke county. His wife, mother of the subject, passed to her rest on May 9, 1890, leaving two sons, Ewing, of this sketch, and William, who lives near Mansfield, Parke county.

Ewing Chapman was educated in the common schools and in the Indiana State Normal School at Terre Haute. He prepared for life as a teacher, and followed this line of endeavor with gratifying success for a period of eight years in Parke county, during which time he was for three years principal of the schools at Marshall, the other five years being devoted to the rural

schools. He gave eminent satisfaction to both pupils and patrons, and his services were in great demand.

Taking an abiding interest in public affairs, Mr. Chapman was elected county clerk in 1904 on the Republican ticket, after having served four years as deputy in that office. Thus he spent eight years in this important office, during which time he discharged his duties in a manner that reflected much credit upon himself and to the eminent satisfaction of all concerned, gaining a wide acquaintance all over the county and numbering the major portion of his acquaintances as friends, owing to his genial and obliging nature, his scrupulous honesty and high sense of honor and his faithful devotion to the best interest of the people.

In the fall of 1909 Mr. Chapman engaged in the furniture and undertaking business, which line of endeavor he has continued to the present day with ever-increasing success, until he now has a large and lucrative patronage. He keeps a large and carefully selected stock of furniture, and promptness and high-grade service is his aim in the undertaking department of his business. He is in partnership with Mr. Teague under the firm name of Teague & Chapman.

On November 28, 1900, Mr. Chapman was united in marriage to Mellie Beeson, daughter of Stephen and Ellen (Teague) Beeson, an excellent and well known family of Marshall, this county. This union has resulted in the birth of one child, Maxwell Miller Chapman, born March 27, 1904.

Fraternally, Mr. Chapman belongs to the Knights of Pythias and the Masons. He is also a member of the Sons of Veterans, and religiously holds membership with the Methodist Episcopal church.

---

#### WILLIAM H. GILLUM, M. D.

No compendium such as the province of this work defines in its essential limitations will serve to present in detail the interesting life career of the well known venerable physician and surgeon, Dr. William H. Gillum, of Rockville, whose name has been a household word in Parke and Vermillion counties for nearly forty years, he having maintained his home here since 1873, during which time he has done much for the general development of the county along all lines and has won a wide reputation among his professional brethren of this section of the Hoosier state, and he is eminently entitled to the respect of his fellow men owing to the well ordered life he has led, his public spirit and his useful career.

Dr. Gillum is a scion of a fine old Southern family, his birth having occurred in Augusta county, Virginia, November 22, 1847. His parents were Dr. P. G. and Mary L. (Jackson) Gillum, the father having been a native of Albemarle county, Virginia, and the mother of Augusta county, Virginia. Dr. P. G. Gillum became a noted medical practitioner of his native locality, and spent his life in the Old Dominion, being drowned there at the age of forty-one years. The mother of the subject of this sketch also spent her life in that state, dying at the advanced age of seventy-five years.

To Dr. P. G. Gillum and wife five children were born. Those living are Prof. Robert G. Gillum, of the Indiana State Normal; Mrs. Walter E. Maxwell, of Terre Haute, Indiana; and Dr. William H., of this review.

The subject was reared in his native state and he received his primary schooling in the common schools, also attending the University of Virginia. Later entering the College of Physicians and Surgeons at Baltimore, Maryland, he was graduated from the same with the class of 1869. Immediately thereafter he went to Augusta county, Virginia, where he engaged in the practice of his profession for a period of four years, then, although successful there, he sought a newer field and came to Rockville, Indiana, and here he has remained, becoming one of the best known and successful general practitioners in this section of the state, where he has always enjoyed a very large and lucrative practice. He has kept well abreast of the times, remaining a profound and careful student of all that pertains to his profession. He is the second oldest doctor in Parke county in point of service. Only one physician who was here when Dr. Gillum came is still in the county.

In February, 1874, Dr. Gillum was united in marriage with Rebecca Randolph, of Rockville, she being a daughter of James Randolph, of Augusta county, Virginia. To this union one son was born, Dr. John Randolph Gillum, of Terre Haute, Indiana.

Dr. Gillum had the honor of organizing the first medical society in Parke county, in 1874, and he is still a member of the same, and it is not too much to say that its continued success has been due very largely to his efforts. This is the Parke County Medical Society. He is also a member of the State Medical Association and the National Medical Association.

True to his ancestry and traditions, Dr. Gillum quite naturally cast his fortunes with the South during the great war between the states and he served most faithfully and gallantly in the Confederate army for a period of three years, seeing much hard service and participating in many important campaigns and hard-fought engagements, having been a member of the famous Stanton (Virginia) Artillery, and was with Lee at the surrender at



Appomattox. He is a member of the Presbyterian church, and fraternally belongs to the Knights of Pythias. He was grand chancellor of the Knights of Pythias of Indiana for one term, and was representative of the supreme lodge of Indiana to the national conclave at two different times. He is one of the best known and influential members of this order in the state. He also belongs to the Masonic order, being a Royal Arch Mason and a member of the chapter at Rockville. Politically, he is a Democrat, and has always been loyal in the support of his party.

In 1888 he was the unanimous choice of Parke county Democrats for the nomination for Congress in the fifth district, but was defeated in the hottest convention of the district.

---

#### STEPHEN A. PIKE.

Through struggle to triumph seems to be the maxim which holds sway for the majority of our citizens, and, though it is undoubtedly true that many fall exhausted in the conflict, a few by their inherent force of character and strong mentality, rise above their environment and all which seems to hinder them until they reach the plane of affluence toward which their face was set through the long years of struggle that must precede any accomplishment of more than ordinary magnitude. Such has been the history of Stephen A. Pike, one of Parke county's able and popular county officials, at this writing incumbent of the office of county assessor, a man whose record needs no embellishment by the biographer, for it is too well known and is too meritorious to need praise, his long retention in various capacities as a public servant being criterion sufficient of his worth and of the universal esteem in which he is held.

Mr. Pike was born August 24, 1847, in Henry county, Indiana, the son of Samuel and Mary (Moricle) Pike, the father a native of this state, and the mother of Virginia, of German parentage. Early in life Samuel Pike came to Indiana and here spent the rest of his life, living in Henry, Wayne, Putnam and Parke counties, his death occurring in the latter, he having come to this county in 1859. He was a miller by trade and, being proficient, his services were in much demand. He made his home in Rockville and vicinity for many years, but died in Bloomingdale, at the age of seventy-nine years. Mrs. Mary Pike, his wife, survived until 1894, reaching the advanced age of eighty-three years. They became the parents of twelve children, seven of

whom are living at this writing, namely: Samuel A., of Chicago; Lydia, widow of Benjamin Ratcliff, of Rockville; Martha, who was the widow of William P. Thomlinson, died on November 6, 1912; Miranda, wife of William Burks, of Bloomingdale, this county; Rachael, wife of Jesse Clarke, of Annapolis, Parke county, this state; Mary, widow of Milton Hadley, also lives at the village of Annapolis; and Stephen A., of this review.

Although Stephen A. Pike was born in Henry county, he spent but a few years there, for when a boy his parents removed to Wayne county, later to Putnam county, and finally to Parke county, when the subject was twelve years of age, and here he grew to manhood and received his education in the common schools and in the Friends Academy at Bloomingdale, under Prof. B. C. Hobbs. He prepared himself for a teacher and this line of work he followed with much success until 1884, during which time his services were in great demand in this and other counties, but he confined his work as teacher to Parke county, with the exception of one term at Paris, Edgar county, Illinois. He taught in Union and Jackson townships, Parke county, Indiana. He always manifested a lively interest in the affairs of his county, assisting in any way he could in its betterment, and in 1884 he was chosen as deputy county auditor under Edwin T. Hadley, serving in succession under that gentleman, Samuel T. Catlin and Elias H. Owen, for a period of fifteen years in all. In 1898 he was elected county auditor on the Republican ticket. In January, 1903, he engaged in the abstract business for four years, during which time he developed a fine set of abstract books. In 1906 he was elected county assessor, and re-elected in 1910, and is at this writing serving his second term. He has thus served in every office in the court house except clerk and sheriff and is probably the best posted man in the court house. As a public servant he has ever been diligent, painstaking, courteous, obliging and scrupulously honest, so that he is very popular with all concerned, irrespective of party ties, although he has ever adhered to the principles of the Republican party.

Mr. Pike was married on August 3, 1882, to Della Rayl, of Hamilton county, Indiana. She is a daughter of James and Margaret (Clarke) Rayl, a highly respected family of that section of the state. To the subject and wife six children were born, namely: Maude L., who was the wife of Robert Musser, is now deceased; Earl H., who died in infancy; Jessie A., who is a graduate of the local high school, is a saleslady in a Rockville store and lives at home; Paul R. is a teacher, now employed in the Normal College at Danville, Indiana; Albert R., who is a graduate of the Danville Normal College, is at present assisting his father; Mary Dell is at home and attending school.

Mr. Pike is a member of the blue lodge of Masons, in Rockville, Parke

Lodge No. 8, one of the oldest lodges in the state. His wife and daughters are members of the Eastern Star. Religiously, Mr. and Mrs. Pike belong to the Methodist Episcopal church, and he is a member of the Sunday school Bible class of one hundred and ninety-three members.

---

### HENRY GRUBB.

For a period of more than a quarter of a century the name of Henry Grubb was widely known over the middle West as a manufacturer of staves and a saw-mill man, and during that time he operated over a wide field and did business on an extensive scale. In his career Mr. Grubb has seen the gathering clouds that threatened disaster, but his rich inheritance of energy and pluck has ever enabled him to turn near defeats into victories and promised failures into successes. He has ever enjoyed in the fullest measure the public confidence, because of the honorable methods he has ever followed, and is one of the highly esteemed men of Parke county. He is now living practically retired in his commodious home in Rockville.

Mr. Grubb was born in Putnam county, Indiana, February 10, 1846. He is a son of Joseph and Ann (Cricks) Grubb, the father born in Delaware, January 2, 1816, and the latter's birth occurred in New Jersey, December 9, 1819. They were the parents of the following children: Amer, Joseph, George, Henry, Matilda, Sarah, John, Edward, Jesse and Sherman. The father was a farmer and cabinet-maker and was regarded as one of the finest workmen in his section of the country, having served an apprenticeship of seven years. He came to Indiana about 1831, locating in Madison township, Putnam county. At one time he was county surveyor of Putnam county. Politically, he was a Republican, and he was a strong Union man and offered his services to his country during the Civil war, but on account of his age and disability was refused. There were only three Union men in his community of two miles square. He had a good farm in Putnam county and there he spent the rest of his life.

Henry Grubb was reared on the home farm and there he helped with the general duties when a boy, attending the common schools in the winter time. Although but sixteen years old, he left school to go to war, enlisting in Company E, Twenty-first Indiana Volunteer Infantry, which was afterwards changed to the First Indiana Heavy Artillery. The date of his enlistment was November 30, 1862, and he served three years in a most faith-

ful and gallant manner, seeing much hard service, and was honorably discharged on November 30, 1865. He was in the two-days battle at Fort Bizlon, Louisiana, was in the siege of Port Hudson of forty-eight days, and other engagements. He was never wounded, but had his clothes cut by bullets. After the war he returned home and later went to Lexington, Iowa, where he attended school for a year and then came back to Indiana and attended Waveland Academy, at the town of Waveland, two terms. He then taught school with much success for a period of nine years, in Parke county, Indiana. Tiring of the school room and desiring a broader field in which to exercise his talents in a business way, he took up the saw-mill business in Jackson township, this county, and followed that two years, then engaged in the stave business, which he followed for a period of thirty years, operating on an extensive scale in Kentucky, Tennessee and Mississippi, and he still does something in this line, making two hundred thousand staves in the year 1912, operating now in Mississippi. High grade work has always been his aim and his products have ever found a very ready market. In Indiana in 1895 he made staves for the largest oak stave cask in the world, for Alfred Hurt, of Greencastle, Indiana, he having done business with Mr. Hurt for a period of thirty years without contract. The above mentioned cask was exhibited in Paris in 1900 at the World's Fair, and Mr. Grubb made the trip to Paris that year and attended the exposition, going by way of London and visited Scotland, Germany, Switzerland and Belgium. In the stave business Mr. Grubb has been very successful, having up-to-date equipment, working hundreds of men and handling hundreds of thousands of dollars. If all the staves he has made were placed lengthwise they would encircle the globe. He has laid by an ample competency for his old age and is now rated as one of the substantial men of Parke county.

Mr. Grubb moved to Jackson township, this county, April 5, 1875, this being just across the county line from Madison township, Putnam county. He had purchased a farm of eighty-three acres in Jackson township in 1871, which he still owns, together with over six hundred acres of valuable land, all told, in Parke county, and four hundred acres in Mississippi, making a total of more than one thousand acres. He lived on his farm in Jackson township until he moved to Rockville, April 7, 1903, when he built a fine residence in the best section of the city.

Mr. Grubb was married on March 28, 1875, to Euphony E. Harney, daughter of John and Euphony (Martin) Harney, the father having been born in Indiana and the mother in South Carolina. Mrs. Grubb was born



in Union township, Parke county, this state. To the subject and wife four children have been born, namely: Miram, wife of Walter D. McMurty, of Marshall, Parke county; Carrie is at home; Marion married Otis Harnless and has one child, Henry Marion; Clelie A. is at home.

Mr. Grubb was elected county surveyor on the Republican ticket in 1882 and served two years. He has been deputy surveyor practically ever since, and at this writing he is doing some work for the present county surveyor. The subject is regarded as one of the most expert surveyors of the country, and as a public servant he gave the utmost satisfaction, both as a surveyor and as county auditor, having been elected to the latter office in 1902 and serving for a period of four years. He belongs to the Knights of Pythias and the Grand Army of the Republic.

---

#### ARTHUR A. HARGRAVE.

It is a well recognized fact that the most powerful influence in shaping and controlling public life is the press. It reaches a greater number of people than any other agency and thus always has been and always will be a most important factor in moulding public opinion and shaping the destiny of the nation. The gentleman to a brief review of whose life the following lines are devoted is prominently connected with the journalism of western Indiana, and at this time is editor and publisher of the *Rockville Republican*, one of the most influential and popular newspapers of Parke county, comparing favorably with the best local sheets in this section of the state in news, editorial ability and mechanical execution. The county recognizes in Mr. Hargrave not only an able and sagacious newspaper man, but also a representative citizen, whose interest in all that affects the general welfare has been of such a character as to win for him a high place in the confidence and esteem of the people.

Arthur A. Hargrave was born at Portland Mills, Putnam county, Indiana, on August 15, 1856, and is the son of William H. and Susan (Bishop) Hargrave. He is descended on the paternal side from sturdy old Virginia stock, his progenitors having been early settlers of the Old Dominion. The subject's paternal grandfather, Cornelius T. Hargrave, was born near the city of Richmond, removing to the state of Ohio about the year 1830. He engaged in farming in the Buckeye state until 1842, when he removed to Indiana and purchased a farm in Putnam county, to which he gave his attention and where he resided until his death, which occurred at Russellville

in 1888. At Circleville, Ohio, he married Elizabeth A. Gephart and they became the parents of eight children, one of whom was the subject's father, William H. Hargrave. The latter was born at Lancaster, Fairfield county, Ohio, on October 11, 1834, and at the age of eight years accompanied the family on their removal to Indiana. He was reared to manhood at the old homestead in Putnam county, securing his education in the common schools. In 1868 he moved to Rockville and was variously engaged until 1884, when he embarked in the furniture and undertaking business, in which he met with pronounced success.

During the war of the Rebellion Mr. Hargrave rendered faithful service in defense of his country as a member of Company B, Seventy-eighth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, with the rank of second sergeant of his company, and at the close of hostilities received an honorable discharge. He is a leading citizen of Rockville and served efficiently for four years as trustee of Adams township.

In 1855 Mr. Hargrave was married to Susan Bishop, the daughter of David Bishop, of Putnam county, the union being blessed with five children, Arthur A., the immediate subject of this sketch; Prof. Charles A. Hargrave, prominently connected with Central Normal College, Danville, Indiana, for over thirty years, part of the time acting president, now secretary of the corporation; Mrs. Jesse R. Long, deceased; Miss Lu Hargrave, of Rockville, and one son, who died in infancy.

Arthur A. Hargrave was but two years old when his family removed to the Putnam county farm, where he remained until thirteen years old, when he accompanied his parents on their removal to Rockville, where he completed his elementary education in the public schools. At the age of seventeen years he entered the office of the *Rockville Republican* as an apprentice to the printer's trade, but in 1876, feeling the need of further educational training, he entered Wabash College, where he was graduated in 1881, with the degree of Bachelor of Arts. A few years later the college conferred upon him the degree of Master of Arts. While a student in that institution he was one of the Baldwin prize essayists, his ability as a student giving him an enviable standing.

Upon leaving college, Mr. Hargrave accepted a position as reporter on the *Kansas City Journal*, returning to Rockville at the end of a year. In the spring of 1883 Mr. Hargrave became a reporter on the *Terre Haute Express*, but about the same time he was offered a position by the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions, which he accepted and in September, 1883, sailed for Persia. He was placed in charge of the board's printing

establishment at Oroomiah, and, the printing being done in the Syriac language, he was compelled to master that tongue, which he soon succeeded in doing. During a portion of the time abroad he was the editor of a monthly, *Rays of Light*, also printed in the Syriac language. In 1887, because of Mrs. Hargrave's poor health, they returned to the United States and for a time made their home at Terre Haute, where Mr. Hargrave became assistant editor of the *Express*. In the spring of 1888 he came to Rockville and purchased the *Rockville Republican*, of which he has since been publisher and editor. At the time of the purchase the property had greatly depreciated in value, but, by his aggressive and energetic policy, Mr. Hargrave made of it one of the best local newspapers in the state, a reputation which it is fully sustaining at this time. The plant is a modern one in every respect, the mechanical equipment including a simplex type-setting machine and other labor-saving machinery. The paper, which is issued weekly, is Republican in its political views, wields a powerful influence in the county, and as a newspaper the *Republican* covers the field thoroughly and enjoys a large and constantly-increasing circulation throughout Parke county and adjacent territory. As a writer Mr. Hargrave wields a forceful and trenchant pen and he gives hearty and earnest support to every movement which promises to benefit the community at large. Personally, he possesses those qualities which commend him to the people, among whom he is held in the highest respect and esteem.

The *Republican* is the oldest newspaper in Parke county, having been founded in 1839 as the *Olive Branch*, which later became the *Parke County Whig*. In 1856, at the birth of the Republican party, the name of the paper was changed to the *True Republican*, under which name it was published for some time, eventually becoming known as the *Parke County Republican*, which was finally changed to its present title, the *Rockville Republican*.

On July 9, 1885, at Oroomiah, Persia, Arthur A. Hargrave was married to Marian S. Moore, the daughter of Rev. E. G. Moore, they having first met during Mr. Hargrave's residence in that field. To this union have been born five children, namely: Palmer W., who was born in Persia in 1886, graduated from the Rockville high school in 1905 and from Wabash College in 1909, afterwards locating in Portland, Oregon, where he is engaged in business, and Clarence M. Hargrave, who graduated from the Rockville high school and Wabash College in the same classes with his brother and was a Baldwin prize essayist. Following graduation he became an instructor in chemistry at Michigan Agricultural College, resigning to accept an appointment as chemist in the pure food department at Washing-

ton, now employed as chemist with the Prest-O-Lite Company, Indianapolis. Ethel is a teacher in the primary grade of the Rockville public schools. William B. is a student in Wabash College, while Marjorie is a student in the local schools. Mr. Hargrave takes a deep interest in educational matters and has rendered efficient service as a trustee of the Rockville schools.

Politically, Mr. Hargrave is a staunch Republican, religiously, is a Presbyterian, and his fraternal relations are with the Free and Accepted Masons, Knights of Pythias and Modern Woodmen. In every avenue of life's activities in which he has engaged Mr. Hargrave has performed his part with fidelity and, because of his honorable record and high personal worth, he enjoys a large circle of warm and loyal friends.

---

### JOSEPH J. DANIELS.

Any history of this section of Indiana would be incomplete without due mention of the venerable Joseph J. Daniels, of Rockville, Parke county, one of the real historic characters of this locality and one of our worthiest citizens, a man whose life has been a blessing to the many whom it has touched and who has lived to see and take part in the wondrous development of this vicinity, being one of the remaining connecting links between the past and the present.

Mr. Daniels was born at Marietta, Ohio, which place was one of the first settlements of the Northwest, May 22, 1826. He is of Yankee parentage. His father, Steven Daniels, was a full-blooded Connecticut Yankee, born in 1797, though his birth occurred at Bloomfield, Ontario county, New York, where his parents had removed just a month before his birth. His mother was Sophia Warren, and she was born sixteen miles southwest of Boston, Massachusetts, of good old New England stock. Steven Daniels was first a builder of houses and later a builder of bridges. Toward the latter part of the year 1819 he left his native community, and went to Olean, Pennsylvania, where he worked as a carpenter a short time, then moved on to Marietta, Ohio, and from there to Ironton, that state, where he gave up house carpentering and began bridge building exclusively. Later he returned to Marietta and there spent his last days, his death occurring in 1853.

Joseph J. Daniels began working with his father when a young man and continued the building business until after the father's death. In 1851 he came to Parke county, Indiana, to build a bridge in Union township, and on



March 6, 1861, he located here permanently. Most of the bridges of Parke county are monuments to his engineering skill and his honest workmanship, he having built more than a dozen bridges in this county and a like number in Vermillion county, three in Putnam county, two in Montgomery county and one in Vigo county, and at other points in Indiana, he having been one of the best known bridge builders in the western part of the state for many years. He built his first bridge in Indiana near the town of Rising Sun in 1850. He also built many bridges in Ohio and Kentucky, giving eminent satisfaction everywhere. His reputation was one of unimpeachable honesty, and men in many walks of life and in various parts of the state bear witness to his exalted character.

In 1854 Mr. Daniels became superintendent of the Evansville & Crawfordsville railroad and moved to Evansville, where he lived two years, then gave up the position. He had done his work exceptionally well, his reputation in that field of endeavor going abroad over the land, and he was subsequently offered positions as superintendent on three different railroads.

Mr. Daniels was married March 9, 1851, to Clarissa. Blessing, of Pennsylvania, and of German extraction. To this union five children were born, namely: Henry, an attorney at Rockville, Indiana; Edward, an attorney of Indianapolis; Parke, who lives in the state of Mississippi, beside two daughters, who died in childhood. A sketch of the oldest son appears elsewhere in this work.

---

#### DANIEL C. JOHNSON.

The life record of Daniel C. Johnson, prominent attorney of Clinton, is worthy of careful consideration and emulation by the youthful readers of this work, for in it lie many valuable lessons. His has indeed been a varied and interesting career and he has made a success of whatever he has turned his attention to, farming, teaching, merchandising, and as a soldier and attorney. He is a fine type of the successful self-made man, for he began life under no favorable auspices, but by indomitable courage and perseverance he has removed, one by one, the obstacles from his path and won success all along the line, becoming well known as one of the leading attorneys of this section of Indiana, and while a member of the state Legislature his reputation became widespread. Withal he is a plain, unassuming gentleman who has won the confidence and good will of all classes.

Mr. Johnson was born in Lafayette, Indiana, October 3, 1842, and is a son of Samuel and Esther (Clark) Johnson, both natives of Ohio and both now deceased. They came from that state to Indiana in an early day and here became well established on a farm, spending their lives engaged in agricultural pursuits. They became the parents of nine children, namely: Daniel C., of this sketch, being the eldest; Sarah C., Henry T., Josiah, George W., Christopher C., James L., Munn and Molly.

Daniel C. Johnson grew to manhood on the home farm and, being the oldest child, much hard work devolved upon him when a boy assisting his father with the development and cultivation of the home place. He received his early education in the country schools in Illinois, and early in life turned his attention to farming, which he followed until the breaking out of the Civil war. He was but eighteen years old when, on July 20, 1861, he enlisted in Company H, Twenty-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, which was assigned to the Army of the Cumberland, and Mr. Johnson saw much hard service, participating in many hard-fought engagements, in all of which he proved to be as true a soldier as the older veterans of his regiment. He was with Sherman all through the Atlanta campaign, and participated in the great battles of Stone's River, Chickamauga, etc. He was honorably discharged at Springfield, Illinois, September 1, 1864. He returned home at once and resumed farming, but later took up merchandising at Tuscola, Illinois, which he followed some time, then began teaching and in this was very successful, becoming superintendent of schools at Clinton, Indiana, for two years. He then began the study of law at home, was admitted to the bar in 1885, having prepared himself for the legal profession. He soon began practice and had a very satisfactory patronage from the first, and as the years advanced he took his place in the front rank of lawyers of Vermillion county, which position he has held to the present time. He has figured prominently in many of the most important cases in the local courts since he established himself here, and he is known to be a safe, persistent and well informed counsellor and a man who has great weight with jurors, always going into court fully prepared.

Mr. Johnson was married on April 3, 1869, to Louisa Lester, daughter of Sigler H. and Parthenia Lester, both natives of Kentucky, from which state they removed to Douglas county, Illinois, where they settled, and there the subject was married. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Johnson, namely: Ora A. is the eldest; Charles E. is a professor in the preparatory department of the University of Chicago; Rose M. has been principal of the Columbia school at Clinton for the past five years.

Fraternally, Mr. Johnson is a member of the Free and Accepted Masons, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Knights of Pythias, the Improved Order of Red Men, having passed all the chairs in the three latter, and he is a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, Lodge No. 86, at Terre Haute, Indiana. He has long been well known and active in fraternal circles in this part of the state. He is a member of the Presbyterian church and a liberal supporter of the same. Politically, he is a staunch Republican and has long been active and influential in the ranks of his party. He was mayor of the city of Clinton for three terms, during which he did much for the permanent good of the city. He was a member of the state Legislature from 1901 to 1907, making a most commendable record as a representative, winning the hearty approval of all concerned.

---

CHARLES W. ASHLEY, JR., M. D.

The medical profession of Parke and Vermillion counties has no more worthy exponent among its younger practitioners than Dr. Charles W. Ashley, Jr., of Clinton, for, though young in years, he has mastered almost every phase of his calling and has achieved a brilliant reputation, taking his place among the successful and popular medical men of this section of the Hoosier state, and, judging from his past worthy record, the future must necessarily hold much in store for him, for he is a profound student, proposing to keep fully abreast of the times in all that pertains to his vocation and nature has endowed him with the necessary characteristics of the successful physician, and a personality that makes him a favorite with all classes.

Dr. Ashley was born December 22, 1882, at Clinton, Indiana, he being the only child of Charles W. and Emma (Morgan) Ashley, the father a native of Boonville, Warrick county, Indiana, and the mother was a native of Vermillion county, this state, and they were reared, educated and married in their native state and are living at this writing at Clinton, where they have long maintained a pleasant home and are well and favorably known.

Dr. Ashley was reared to manhood in his native town and he received his primary education in the public schools and high school of Clinton. Early in life he decided to enter the medical profession and with this end in view he entered the Medical College of Indiana at Indianapolis, where he made a splendid record and from which institution he was graduated with the class of 1905. Soon afterwards he returned to Clinton and began the practice of his profession, opening an office in July, 1905, and he has remained

here to the present time, successfully engaged in the general practice, with ever-growing success.

Dr. Ashley was married on April 30, 1912, to Jane Margaret Brotherton, of Terre Haute, Indiana, being a young lady of many praiseworthy traits and the representative of an excellent family.

Fraternally, the Doctor is a member of Jerusalem Lodge No. 99, Free and Accepted Masons, and Chapter No. 195, Royal Arch Masons, at Clinton, also the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, Lodge No. 86, at Terre Haute, Indiana. He belongs to the Clinton Medical Society and the American Railway Surgeons. He is a surgeon for the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad and is giving eminent satisfaction in this connection, being held in high favor by the officials of that road. He is also secretary of the local board of health and is doing fine work in that capacity. Politically, he is an ardent Republican and takes much interest in public affairs.

---

#### MARK E. NEBEKER.

One of the ablest and most promising of the lawyers of the younger generation in Vermillion county who is deserving of special mention in a work of the province assigned to the one in hand is Mark E. Nebeker, of Clinton. He is a man who is enamored of his work, which fact is essential to high accomplishment in any line, for Longfellow's line is true, "His heart was in his work, and the heart giveth grace to every art." Mr. Nebeker has spared no pains in order to advance himself in the legal profession, always a profound student and a close observer and of untiring perseverance and it is safe to predict for him a brilliant future in his chosen field of endeavor.

Mr. Nebeker is a scion of one of the prominent old families of Vermillion county, the bright name of which he has been careful to keep untarnished. He was born in Clinton, Indiana, January 25, 1885, and is a son of Henry and Ida M. Nebeker, the father becoming one of the best known men in this locality during a past generation, having practiced medicine here with much success for a period of thirty-five years, or from the time he began his career until his death, in 1909, at the age of fifty-four years. He was not only an able physician, enjoying a lucrative and extensive practice in Clinton and the surrounding country, but he was a public-spirited man who did much for the general good of his community. The mother of the subject



is still living here. Aquilla Nebeker, grandfather of the subject, was one of the early settlers of Vermillion county, having come here from the state of Delaware, and from that early day to the present the family has been well known and influential here.

Mark E. Nebeker, the only child of Dr. Henry Nebeker and wife, was reared in Clinton and educated in the common schools here, later taking a course in Culver Military Academy, then entered the University of Illinois, where he made a splendid record for scholarship and from which institution he was graduated with the class of 1908. Early in life he had determined upon a legal career and, bending every effort in that direction, he was admitted to the bar in 1906. Thus well prepared for his vocation, he opened an office in Clinton and here he has gradually built up a large and satisfactory practice which is ever growing and he is rapidly taking a front rank at the local bar. He always goes into court well prepared, is careful, energetic and loyal to the interests of his clients, and his arguments in court have great weight with juries.

Mr. Nebeker has remained unmarried. Politically, he is a Republican and has been active and influential in the ranks for some time. During the campaign of 1912 he was his party's choice as a candidate for prosecuting attorney. Fraternally, he belongs to the Free and Accepted Masons, at Clinton, and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks at Terre Haute.

---

#### SAMUEL BRENTON DAVIS.

Among the eminent journalists of Indiana was Samuel B. Davis, who for more than forty years wielded a forceful editorial pen on *The Hoosier State*, Newport, Indiana. At the time his spirit took its flight, April 2, 1908, it was said of him that he had owned and edited the *Hoosier State* forty years, being the oldest editor in the United States, if not in the entire world, in point of continuous service on the same paper.

Of his ancestry it may be said that his great-grandfather, Jeremiah Davis, was a native of Wales, and served as a soldier in the Revolutionary war. His grandfather, John Davis, his father, Robert Davis, and his mother, Melvina (Taylor) Davis, were all born in Montgomery county, Virginia.

In the autumn of 1839 his parents moved to Indiana, where he was born three years later, on the 3d of June, 1842, at Annapolis, Parke county. At the age of thirteen years his father removed to Vermillion county and



SAMUEL B. DAVIS.



settled on a farm in Helt township, where he resided until his death, in 1890. Samuel B. lived with his parents and worked on the farm until the breaking out of the Civil war in 1861. At that date he was a large and powerful youth of nineteen years of age, and when President Lincoln issued his call for volunteers for ninety days, his father persuaded him to stay and help him on the farm until the next call for troops, when he said he would consent to his going. He enlisted in Company C, Eighteenth Regiment, Indiana Infantry, in July, 1861. He participated in the battle of Pea Ridge, the siege of Vicksburg, and a number of skirmishes, and after a service of one and a half years in the Union army, he had a severe attack of measles which he contracted on a forced march through a rain, and took a cold which settled in his right arm and right leg, crippling him for life and necessitating the use of crutches.

In 1866 Mr. Davis was elected treasurer of Vermillion county, and was re-elected in 1868. During his incumbency the office was robbed of about thirty-five thousand dollars. The thieves were seen and followed, but they made good their escape, though a part of the money was recovered later. Mr. Davis made an ideal treasurer, and also had served as trustee of his township three terms, each time being elected by an increased majority, the first time being elected by ten, the second term by thirty and the last term by eighty-five majority. He was a Republican of the stalwart type.

In the month of January, 1868, while in Clinton, this county, collecting taxes for Vermillion county, he met Gen. H. D. Washburn, who had recently purchased the *Hoosier State* for political reasons, rather than as a speculation, he being a candidate for Congress at the time, and he offered to sell the office and good will of the same to Mr. Davis for five hundred dollars. At that date Mr. Davis was only twenty-six years of age, and was without newspaper experience, but he nevertheless bought the plant and took control April 23, 1868. On May 1, 1893, on account of ill health, he leased the office to his sons, Bird H. and Fred W. Davis, who had charge of the paper three years, the father, however, doing much of the editorial work. In April, 1896, the firm name was changed from Davis Bros. to S. B. Davis & Sons, editors and publishers. Subsequently, the son, Fred W. Davis, withdrew from the firm and at the death of the senior Davis the office fell to the wife, Mrs. Sarah C. Davis, to be her property during life. Bird H. Davis is now the editor and manager of the paper.

Beginning with a subscription list of two hundred and fifty in 1868.



Mr. Davis built it up to fifteen hundred, and never offered premiums, but depended upon the real merits of his newspaper for increasing his circulation, which steadily increased under his superior journalistic management. As a soldier there was none braver, and as an editor he was bright, fearless and witty, and as a friend he was generous, loyal and ever true. He never remembered an enemy nor forgot a friend. Whether on the battlefield or in the editorial room, he was a fighter that never asked, but always gave quarters to an enemy.

Of Mr. Davis's domestic relations let it be said that in 1868 he was united in marriage to Sarah Canady, who still survives and is an honored resident of Newport, where so many years of her life were spent as the faithful companion of Mr. Davis. To them were born six children: Bird H., now editor and manager of the *Hoosier State*; Clara, of Newport; Ora D., of Terre Haute; Fred W., of Redlands, California; Ren M., of Keokuk, Iowa, where he is engaged in erecting public works for the Hydraulic Construction Company of Maine, he acting as foreman for the company; and Robert Enoch, who died in infancy.

Mr. Davis was richly endowed with a strong and vigorous mind and, although suffering for five weeks with la grippe, he never lost the brightness of his mind nor his cheerful disposition until the last breath had left his tired and weakened body and his soul had passed on to a better existence. He believed in the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man and his religion was the Golden Rule. He was kind-hearted and generous and, as was once said at the grave of a noble American, by his own brother: "Were every one for whom he did some loving service to bring a blossom to his grave, he would sleep tonight beneath a wilderness of flowers."

Mr. Davis passed away from earthly scenes, with his devoted wife and children at his bedside. He was buried in Thomas cemetery, on Sunday afternoon, by his comrade in arms of Shiloh Post No. 49, Grand Army of the Republic, of which he was one of the few remaining charter members. His life-long friend, Rev. John W. Parrett, preached his funeral sermon, being assisted by Revs. J. S. Brown and E. M. Freeman.

To have been a fearless editor in this commonwealth for two score years, and take part in the settling of great questions such as grew out of the Civil war, to stand for the right as he understood the right, meant force of character such as few men possess, but this he performed manfully and well to the last editorial he ever penned. It is befitting in closing this memoir of a truly prominent and good man, to quote the resolutions passed by the

Indiana Republican Editorial Association which convened at Indianapolis in 1909, which read as follows:

"Samuel B. Davis, one of the pioneer members of the Indiana Republican Editorial Association, and after an experience of more than forty years in the newspaper business, being the editor of the *Hoosier State*, published at Newport, Indiana, died at his home April 2, 1908. He was an active, energetic and enthusiastic man, though an invalid as a result of injuries received while a soldier in the Civil war. He was a good citizen, a forceful writer and lived a life consistent with good citizenship; therefore, be it

"Resolved, that we cherish his memory and have a high appreciation of his ability as a newspaper man, one who expressed his convictions in words in which there was no guile, and we hereby express our regrets over the loss of so valuable a member as he.

"Resolved, that these resolutions be spread upon the minutes of this association and that a copy be furnished the family of the bereaved."

---

#### HENRY ADAMSON.

A profound professional knowledge, apt intellectual training and the possession and utilization of the attributes and characteristics essential to success, have made Henry Adamson eminent in his chosen calling, and he has long ranked among the enterprising and successful lawyers in a community noted for the high order of its legal talent, while at the same time he has won the confidence and esteem of the people of Vermillion county and vicinity for his upright life and genial disposition, and he is regarded as one of the most promising of our younger attorneys.

Mr. Adamson was born at Fontanette, Vigo county, Indiana, September 21, 1885. He is a son of Elijah H. and Mary B. (Porter) Adamson, the father born November 5, 1840, in Indiana, and is now residing in Clinton; the mother was born August 11, 1854, in Illinois; she, too, is still living. These parents were married July 11, 1875. Elijah Adamson has devoted his life to mechanical engineering and has worked at a number of different mines. His family consisted of four children, three of whom are still living, namely: Louise married Carl Balmer, who is the owner of a garage in Clinton; Maude is at home; Henry, of this review; and John, who was the eldest child, is deceased.

Henry Adamson received his early education in the common schools.

from which he was graduated in 1903, then entered the Indiana Law School, where he made rapid progress, and he was admitted to the bar in 1904. He began the practice of his profession at Clinton with D. C. Johnson, under the firm name of Johnson & Adamson, which was continued with much success for a period of five years, being dissolved in the spring of 1909, Mr. Adamson opening an office in May of that year by himself and has continued to practice alone, his clientele ever growing until he has become one of the leading members of the local bar among the younger set of lawyers. A bright future is predicted for him, for he keeps well abreast of the times in all that pertains to his chosen vocation and possesses by nature the qualities that go to make the successful lawyer.

Mr. Adamson was married on October 4, 1906, to Edna M. Crane, daughter of James Crane, a well known Clinton druggist. She was born January 28, 1885, in Vermillion county, Indiana. Her mother was known in her maidenhood as Mary B. Odell. Mrs. Adamson grew to womanhood in her native community and received a good education in the local schools. To Mr. and Mrs. Adamson have been born three children, namely: James Henry, born January 29, 1908; Lloyd Carlton, July 31, 1909, and Mary Elizabeth, born October 12, 1912.

Fraternally, Mr. Adamson belongs to the Masonic order at Clinton, and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks at Terre Haute. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and politically he is a Republican and is active in local party affairs. He has been city attorney of Clinton for two years, also attorney for Vermillion county for two years, serving in each capacity in a manner that reflected much credit upon himself and to the eminent satisfaction of all concerned.

---

#### HAROLD A. HENDERSON.

The bar of Parke county has an able representative in the person of Harold A. Henderson, junior member of the widely known firm of Hunt & Henderson, of Rockville. While yet young in years he has made his influence felt in his town and county and has shown what determination, persistency and energy can accomplish in early life, and, judging from his past splendid record, the future must necessarily hold much of good and promise in store for him.

Mr. Henderson was born at Vincennes, Indiana, December 3, 1880. He is the son of George B. and Ella (Adams) Henderson, both natives of

Indiana, the father of Knox county and the mother of Parke county. They grew to maturity, were educated and married in their native state and here spent their lives, both being now deceased. The Hendersons are of Scotch-Irish ancestry. George B. Henderson was a farmer and he moved to Parke county when his son Harold A. was one year old, locating in Washington township, where he established a good home, developed a productive farm and continued to reside there until his death, August 30, 1910. He took an interest in public affairs and was trustee of Washington township for a period of four years. Religiously, he was a Presbyterian, and an active worker in the Bethany Presbyterian church, of which he was a member. During the Civil war he was a private in Company I, Thirty-first Indiana Volunteer Infantry, being the youngest member of his company, but he performed his duty while at the front with as much courage and gallantry as any veteran in his company and regiment. Politically, he was a staunch Republican. The mother of the subject of this sketch died on November 18, 1896. They were the parents of two children, Harold A. and Dwight J., who lives in Horton, Kansas, where he is superintendent of the government Indian school.

Harold A. Henderson grew to manhood on his father's farm and there assisted with the general work of the farm. He received his primary education in the country schools and at the academy at Bloomingdale, and completed his junior year at the Valparaiso law school. He studied law in the office of Puett & McFaddin, and was, in August, 1903, admitted to the bar. When but a youth he was an active worker in public affairs and, in 1906, when twenty-five years old, he was elected auditor of Parke county, the duties of which office he discharged for a period of four years in a manner that reflected credit upon himself. He has always been loyal to the tenets of the Republican party.

On January 1, 1911, Mr. Henderson formed a partnership with Elwood Hunt in the practice of law in Rockville and he has forged ahead until he has taken his place among the leaders of the local bar and, with Mr. Hunt, enjoys a large and constantly growing business.

Mr. Henderson was married to Sarah Katherine Strouse, daughter of Isaac R. and Juliet V. Strouse, their wedding occurring on June 12, 1907. Mrs. Henderson, who was a woman of charming personality, and who possessed a brilliant intellect, died on April 28, 1912, leaving one child, John Jacob Henderson.

Mr. Henderson has probably as large an acquaintance throughout Parke county as any other citizen. Possessed of an aggressive nature and with a



natural aptitude for politics, he is regarded as one of the strong leaders of the Republican party in Parke county. He has a splendid and loyal following. He is well acquainted over the fifth congressional district and has many warm friends throughout the state, and is a familiar figure at the county and district conventions of his party. Mr. Henderson gives the same energy in behalf of his clients and is possessed of a strong determination. He is known as a good fighter in court as well as politics. Mr. Henderson is a man of wide reading and information upon historical, political and economic topics. He has the qualities of a clear and impressive speaker, and on occasions displays genuine eloquence. Although his aggressive disposition has naturally created enemies, withal he has a host of loyal friends that always have stayed staunch and true. Mr. Henderson regards loyalty in friendship as one of the cardinal principles.

---

#### ELWOOD HUNT.

Selecting the law as his profession, Elwood Hunt, of Rockville, Indiana, has by his devotion to business made himself what he is today, a thorough lawyer of the "Old School." He is a safe counsellor and one of the leading reliable attorneys of the Rockville bar, of which he is one of the oldest and most highly honored members. He has had a business and professional experience of nearly fifty years and, being of a studious nature and temperate habits and having kept well abreast of the times in all that pertains to his vocation, is still actively engaged in the practice. He has a judicial bent of mind and is so well bedded in the basic principles of the law that his ready and correct conclusions come as if by intuition. He is a logical pleader and strongest when discussing the legal phases of his case and because of these traits has often been called upon to act as special judge in his home and other counties. He has been solicited to run, but has never been a candidate for a judicial office. He has ever been a man of patriotic impulses and ready to assist in any forward movement for the general good of his country and he is one of the honored veterans of the war of the Rebellion, having while yet a mere boy fought gallantly for the perpetuation of the Union.

Mr. Hunt was born in Sugar Creek township, Parke county, Indiana, April 11, 1844. His parents were William and Nancy (McMasters) Hunt. The father was a native of Guilford county, North Carolina, while the mother was a native of Randolph county, that state, and there they spent

their earlier years. The family is of English and Scotch descent. The paternal grandfather, Zimri Hunt, was also a native of North Carolina, from which state he came overland to Parke county, Indiana, among the first settlers and here began life in a typical pioneer fashion, locating on Mill creek, in Sugar Creek township. Grandfather McMasters was also a native of North Carolina and one of the early settlers of Parke county, who located on Sugar creek, in Penn township. They were both farmers and took an active interest in the affairs of their neighborhoods. The father of the subject devoted his life to agricultural pursuits, where he became a substantial and well known citizen. He was an active member of the United Brethren church, later joining the Methodist church and he was especially interested in school work, doing much for the betterment of schools in his township and he assisted in building one of the first school houses in that township, which building was of logs. He figured prominently in the early development of the material, civic and moral life of Parke county, especially Sugar Creek township. His death occurred in 1880, at the age of sixty-nine. His widow surviving twenty-nine years longer, reached the advanced age of ninety, passing away in 1909. They were the parents of ten children, five of whom are living at this writing, namely: Mrs. J. N. McCampbell, of Rockville; Dr. C. E. Hunt, of Eldorado, Kansas; Mrs. Ermina Jones, of Los Angeles, California; Mrs. Mary O. Mehaffey, of Klamath Falls, Oregon, and Elwood, of this sketch.

Elwood Hunt grew to manhood on the home farm in Sugar Creek township, where he assisted with the general work and attended the common schools of that township. He enlisted in the Federal army September 1, 1862, when he was eighteen years old, becoming a member of Company A, Eighty-fifth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, commanded by Col. John P. Baird, and he served faithfully until in June, 1863, when he was discharged on account of a gunshot wound, received in the battle of Thompson's Station, Tennessee, March 5, 1863. Returning home from the army, Mr. Hunt attended Bloomingdale and Waveland Academies and Asbury (now De Pauw) University.

He began life for himself by teaching school, teaching three terms in Indiana and one in Illinois. He was a successful teacher, but he turned his attention to the law, having a natural bent in that direction, and coming to Rockville on August 1, 1868, he resumed the study of law in the office of James T. Johnson. In the fall of that year he was appointed deputy clerk of the circuit court of Parke county, in which capacity he served for two years and in 1870 was elected recorder of such county for a term of four

years. He declined a re-election in order to devote his attention to the practice of law, which he has continued with ever-growing success until the present time, enjoying a liberal patronage and ranking as one of the leaders of the bar in his native county, maintaining a busy office in Rockville and being now the senior member of the well known and active firm of Hunt & Henderson.

Mr. Hunt was married in Rockville, August 18, 1870, to Emma Hargreaves, who was born in Halifax, England, April 2, 1854. She was the daughter of Henry and Hannah (Farrar) Hargreaves, both natives of England, the father having been born at Huddersfield and the mother at Halifax. He died in Rockville in 1900 and she in 1903. Nine children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Elwood Hunt, namely: Leta, wife of John T. Walker, of Rockville, Indiana; Ada, deceased; Ola, wife of Henry H. Simler, of New York City; Jewell, wife of Frank E. Strouse, of Rockville; Neil, wife of Daniel D. Jones, of Indianapolis; Edna, deceased; Harry H., of Rockville; Allen E., deceased, and William L., of Rockville.

Mr. Hunt and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church of Rockville and he belongs to the Grand Army of the Republic.

Mr. Hunt was formerly a Republican and actively affiliated with that party for about twenty years after the war, when he became dissatisfied with its money and tariff policies and since 1896 has affiliated with the Bryan element of the Democratic party, having supported Woodrow Wilson for President. He is not, however, bound to any political party and exercises the privilege of voting for the men and measures of his choice without regard to party or past affiliations.

---

#### JOHN S. McFADDIN.

A man who has all the qualities which go to the making of the desirable and conscientious member of the community is John S. McFaddin, of Rockville. He is known to be a man of high attainments and practical ability as a lawyer, and as one who has achieved success in his profession because he has worked for it persistently and in channels of honest endeavor. His prestige at the bar of Parke county stands in evidence of his ability and likewise serves as a voucher for intrinsic worth of character. He has used his intellect to the best purpose, has directed his energies along legitimate courses, and his career has been based upon the wise assumption that nothing

save industry, perseverance, sturdy integrity and fidelity to duty will lead to success.

Mr. McFaddin was born in Rockville, Indiana, May 21, 1869. He is a scion of one of our worthiest old pioneer families, being a son of Isaac and Ruth (Curl) (Denman) McFaddin, the father a native of Lexington, Rockford county, Virginia, and the mother was born in Parke county, Indiana, of North Carolina stock. Isaac McFaddin was a carpenter and contractor and he came to Parke county in the fall of 1865. He had previously lived in the state of Arkansas and during the Civil war served from that state in the Confederate army. He married in 1868. He is still living in Rockville, making his home with the subject, John S. McFaddin, being advanced in years, having celebrated his eighty-second birthday, March 14, 1912. He was in his prime one of the leading house contractors in Parke county, erecting many of the buildings in and around Rockville, and was actively identified with the upbuilding of this locality in its history of forty years ago. He is one of the oldest Odd Fellows in Indiana, having been a member for sixty-one years. The mother of the subject had previously married Isaac Denman, whose father was a prominent preacher. She had one son, Isaac W. Denman, an insurance agent of Marshall, Parke county, by her first marriage. The father of the subject had also been previously married, his first wife having been Esther East, which union resulted in the birth of one child, Mrs. Alice Berry, of Lexington, Virginia. The death of Mrs. Isaac McFaddin occurred on June 17, 1881.

John S. McFaddin grew to manhood in his native town, and he received his early educational training in the local public schools, being graduated from the Rockville high school May 7, 1887. He then entered Wabash College at Crawfordsville, Indiana, from which institution he was graduated with the class of June 17, 1891, receiving the degree of Bachelor of Science, and a few years ago that college honored Mr. McFaddin by conferring upon him the degree of Master of Arts.

Early in life he decided upon a legal career and he bent every effort to properly fit himself for the same, and was admitted to the bar in February, 1892, and at once began practice. He read law with Samuel D. Puett during and after his college days and formed a partnership with him under the firm name of Puett, Adams & McFaddin on January 1, 1893. This firm became Puett & McFaddin on January 1, 1895, Mr. Adams having retired. The last mentioned firm continued until Mr. Puett's death, in May, 1907, and on June 10th of that year Mr. McFaddin formed a partnership with Howard Maxwell, which has continued to the present time and is one of the



best known and busiest firms in western Indiana, as well as one of the most successful.

Mr. McFaddin was county attorney from 1897 to 1900, was a member of the school board for seven years, and is now president of the board, holding the present appointment from the Republican town board. He was his party's candidate for prosecuting attorney in 1896 and carried the county, which is strongly Republican, by five votes. He was nominated for judge in 1904 and lost his home county by only one vote, this being the forty-seventh judicial circuit. In August, 1909, Judge G. Rheuby resigned and Governor Marshall offered Mr. McFaddin the appointment, which he declined. As a public servant he has ever been faithful and energetic, discharging his duties in a manner that has reflected much credit upon himself and to the eminent satisfaction of all concerned, irrespective of party alignment. He has always been an uncompromising Democrat and is a potent factor in local party affairs. He was a delegate to the Democratic national convention at Baltimore in 1912, and in the three preceding state conventions was a member of the committee on resolutions and helped make the platforms.

The domestic life of Mr. McFaddin began on January 15, 1896, when he was united in marriage to Cora A. Mehurien, of Bloomingdale, Parke county, Indiana, where her people have long been well known and highly esteemed. She is a lady of many commendable attributes and is popular with a wide circle of friends. This union has been graced by the birth of four children, namely: John M., born July 31, 1897; Hugh and Howard, twins, born May 14, 1900; Martha Jean, born August 25, 1904.

Fraternally, Mr. McFaddin belongs to the Knights of Pythias, the Improved Order of Red Men, the encampment of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Modern Woodmen, also the Masonic order, having attained the thirty-second degree in the same, and he also holds membership in the Ancient Arabic Order of Nobles of the Mystic Shrine. He is a Presbyterian by affiliation and ancestry. He is a member of the Phi Kappa Psi at Wabash College. He is one of the charter members of the Shakespeare Club, a literary club of Rockville, which was organized twenty years ago.

Mr. McFaddin has taken a very active interest in the local schools and was a member of the board when the present excellent high school building was erected. He was for years a member of the state executive committee of the Democratic party. He has taken an active interest in having gravel roads built in Rockville and Parke county. He is deserving of the title of the most progressive citizen of Rockville and his aid has ever been readily

extended in the furtherance of any movement having as its object the up-building of the city and county in any way. As a lawyer he easily stands in the front rank, being profoundly versed in the basic principles of jurisprudence, has remained a profound student of all phases of his profession, kept advised on the newest statutes of his state and he takes infinite pains in the preparation of cases, always looking after the interests of his clients as he would his own, and never goes into court without being fully prepared. He is a painstaking, persistent and cautious advocate and before the court or a jury he is logical, convincing, always much in earnest, and in pleading an important case he is not infrequently truly eloquent. Judging from the past successes and honors that have come to him, the future augurs much of promise, both in a professional and political way, for him. He came up from the ranks, is one of the common people, has known what hard work meant all his life, for when young he assisted his father as a carpenter, and when a boy worked on the *Rockville Eagle*, for very little remuneration; but he has always been willing to do anything honorable in order to learn and to advance himself. He has been very successful in a business way and is the owner of a finely improved and valuable farm of two hundred and eighty acres three miles southeast of Rockville. He is president of the Parke Hotel Company, and is one of the trustees of the handsome new opera house at Rockville.

---

#### JAMES M. WHITTINGTON.

The greater number of the citizens of Indiana are farmers and tillers of the soil. The state is one of the foremost farming states in the Union, and its farmers are among the most progressive. To their enterprise and spirit, as well as the excellent natural advantages of soil and climate, is due the high position which their state holds. Among the farmers of Parke county who have done much along scientific lines to increase production and fertility, and whose efforts have brought to them material success, is James M. Whittington, a young man, but one of the most prominent farmers of his community, the worthy representative of a family all of whose members are respected.

James M. Whittington was born in Illinois on May 23, 1872, the son of Joshua L. and Cynthia E. (Alexander) Whittington. Joshua L. Whittington was born in Kentucky and his wife is a native of West Virginia. When about twenty years old, Joshua Whittington came to Indiana and

began farming. Later he removed to Illinois, still following farming, but after a time returned to Parke county, Indiana. In 1900 he moved to a farm near Cayuga, Indiana, where he now resides. Five of his seven children are now living. Joshua Whittington is a man of strong and sturdy character, who has merited the respect of his neighbors in whatever community he has lived.

James M. Whittington attended the common schools in Illinois, and returned with his parents to Parke county, Indiana. He early took up farming, and has always been greatly interested in the practical aspects of making it pay as much as possible for the labor applied and money invested. In 1901 he was married to Alma Williams, the daughter of Daniel C. and Armilda (Grimes) Williams, her father being one of the old and esteemed veterans of the Civil war and a large landholder in this county. To this marriage were born three children, Donald, Carrie and Dwight, who, bright and active, make life happy for their parents. Mr. Whittington has not taken a prominent part in politics and has never cared to hold public office. In religion he is a Baptist and takes part in all church activities. He is a man well liked by his neighbors and one who is depended upon as always doing his full share in every community enterprise.

---

#### WILLIAM A. BOWSHER.

One of the most prominent men in Liberty township, Parke county, Indiana, is William A. Bowsher, who is a representative of one of the fine old families who came to this state when the country was in its natural untamed condition, and have built up not only their own homes, but cities, and made Indiana one of the best states in the Union. These men introduced agriculture on a small scale, but their work was chiefly one of clearing the ground and making homes. Their sons gave more attention to the farms, and cultivation of the ground became more extensive. The next generation extended the holdings, and introduced some new methods, and these who now hold the ground have made farming a science, built modern homes on their land, and are indeed kings of the soil, descended from a royal line.

William A. Bowsher's great-grandfather, Jacob Bowsher, came from Ohio to this state, when it was first opened up, and faced all the trials and hardships of the new country. His son, Joseph Bowsher, was a native of Parke county and did his work building up the country about the Wolfe place. Joseph Bowsher was the father of John N., who was born in Reserve

township, Parke county. He married Margaret Huxford, and they were the parents of William A. Bowsher.

William A. Bowsher was born October 20, 1875, in Liberty township, Parke county, Indiana. He and his two sisters, Margaret and Miranda, and his brother, Joseph, lived a happy life on the old farm, and incidentally learned many lessons in their work, in addition to the education received from the common schools and at Bloomingdale Academy. He took up farming after finishing school, and is still working on his farm in Liberty township. On October 14, 1897, he married Clare E. Kitchen, the daughter of George and Margaret Kitchen. They were natives of Ohio, having come to Indiana, where they lived in Parke county for a short time, and returning to Ohio, where they now reside. William A. and Clare Bowsher have one child, W. Ward Bowsher, who is living at home.

As he now has thirty acres of fine bottom land, Mr. Bowsher is still engaged in mixed farming. He has been quite successful and owns some of the most highly cultivated land in Parke county. His interests, however, are not limited to his farm, and he has given liberally of his time and attention in the affairs of his community. Mr. Bowsher is well known in the country around Liberty township for his honesty and integrity and is highly respected by his friends and neighbors. He held a position on the advisory board for four years, and his voice is still influential in all public enterprises. Mr. Bowsher is young, progressive and energetic, and is an asset in the public welfare of Parke county. He is a member of the Free and Accepted Masons, Lodge No. 559, at Sylvania, and is one of the most active members in that place. His influence will undoubtedly make an unmistakable impression on the life of his township and county.

---

#### WILLIAM B. GILLUM.

One of the most prominent figures in the history of Parke county, Indiana, is William B. Gillum, who has been looked up to in that part of Indiana as a man of sound judgment and unprejudiced justice. He has been very successful and retired from business several years ago, and now lives in the village of Sylvania in Liberty township.

Mr. Gillum was born near Harveysburg, Fountain county, June 23, 1847, and is the son of Osborn and Emmaline (Sowers) Gillum. His father was a native of North Carolina, and came to this state when it was



still young, settling in Orange county. Later he moved to Fountain county, where he bought a farm and lived there the rest of his days. He had eight children, five of whom are still living. William B. Gillum spent his early life on his father's farm, attending the common schools in Fountain county, and later the Bloomingdale Academy for two terms. After leaving the academy he taught school for three years. The life of a teacher did not appeal to Mr. Gillum as being active enough, and he soon returned to Sylvania, Parke county, and entered the general merchandise business in 1873. He was very successful in his business career, being well known for his honesty and integrity, and in his case virtue reaped her reward. In 1908, he retired from business, at the age of sixty.

William B. Gillum was married in 1874 to Jennie Richardson, the daughter of Benjamin and Elizabeth Richardson, of Vermillion county, Indiana, who came from Pennsylvania to this state when the country was only thinly settled. William B. and Jennie Gillum had two children, both of whom are still living. Chloe A. was married to C. C. Jackson, who is prominent as commissarius for the Arkadelphia Lumber Company and they live at Arkadelphia, Arkansas. Harry Gaston is living in Sylvania, Indiana, and is attending Henderson Brown College at Arkadelphia, Arkansas. Mr. Gillum's first wife died in 1902, at the age of forty-five years. He was married again, in December, 1903, to Laura Drummond Laughlin, daughter of Joseph W. and Mary (Cummings) Drummond. Mr. Drummond was a native of Ohio and Mrs. Drummond was a native of Virginia.

Mr. Gillum's activities have not been confined to his own interests, for he has taken part in every movement for the common good in that part of the country for almost half a century and has served the community in many ways. For many years he was a notary public. He served as justice of the peace for one term, four years, and every case that came before him received his careful attention, gaining for him the confidence and good will of law-abiding citizens. Mr. Gillum became very popular in Liberty township and held the position of township trustee for two terms. He is a Republican, and has not only considered it his duty to serve the community when he has held some particular office, but has given his efforts to every good cause which has needed an energetic and earnest partisan.

Although Mr. Gillum has retired from active business, he is keenly alive to all of the movements of the day, and his judgment is sought and his advice followed by many who know that he has made a success in his own life, and helped others by a kind heart, restrained and governed only by a just and unprejudiced attitude toward his friends and neighbors.

## JOHN S. PICKARD.

Among the few men of today who live in Parke county, Indiana, who can boast of active service in the Civil war is John S. Pickard, of Sugar Creek township, who has long been one of the prominent men in that district, esteemed for his public service in times of peace, as well as in those bloody four years upon which our country still looks with sorrow. He is one of the most successful farmers in that part of the country and has also found time to give to the public, when they have called upon him.

John S. Pickard was born in Liberty township, Parke county, Indiana, July 30, 1831. His father was Isaac W. and his mother Sarah G. (Ephlin) Pickard. They were both born in North Carolina, and came to this state in 1829, taking up farming and following this life until their death. He was an ordained minister of the United Brethren church and one of the most active pioneer preachers of this section of the state. They had eleven children: Eliza J. is dead; Amanda M. was the third child; Sarah C., the fourth; Semira Ann is dead; William was the sixth child; Samantha is dead; then followed Mary Elmira, Isaac A., Dririnda M., and Martha E., who is dead.

John S. Pickard is the second child. He was educated in the common schools of Indiana, spending his vacations working on the farm and building up a physique which withstood even the strain of the war. As soon as he finished school Mr. Pickard took up farming and was at the plow when called for the service to the Union in 1861. He enlisted in Company K, Forty-third Indiana Volunteer Infantry, Army of the Cumberland. Among the engagements in which he took part, the first was the battle of Helena, the last the battle of Mark's Mills, where the regiment was captured. He was mustered out in October, 1864, after faithful and active service, and went home again like so many of our heroes to take up farming again.

In 1854 John S. Pickard married Rosabell Wilkins, the daughter of George and Icy (Thomas) Wilkins, who were early settlers in Parke county, coming here in 1828 and settling on a farm. Mrs. Pickard died in May, 1907, at the age of seventy years. They had six children, Adora, Isaac W., Icy and John S. are still living; Michael H. and Alice R. Pickard are dead. Mr. Pickard has always been very popular in his community, and for eight years he held the position of township assessor of Sugar Creek township, his honesty, sterling integrity, justice and industry being recognized by all of his friends and neighbors. Mr. Pickard is a member of the Free and Accepted Masons at Sylvania, Indiana, and is a member of the Universalist

church. He has been a faithful patriot, an industrious citizen and an honest public servant in each position, giving the public the benefit of his cool-headed justice and untiring endeavors in every righteous cause. He is an example for the youth of Parke county and they may well point to him as a man whose being has been justified by his works.

---

### THE PARKE COUNTY TIMES.

One of the progressive and wide-awake county newspapers of western Indiana which has attained a high rank is *The Parke County Times*, published by F. L. and C. L. Sherrill, both of



whom are natives of New York state, C. L. Sherrill having been born at Sandy Hill, where the Sherrill family was long, well and favorably known. His wife, known as F. L. Sherrill in the firm, was born at Oswego, New York. Mr. and Mrs. Sherrill came to Rockville, Parke county, Indiana, in April, 1908, and purchased *The Parke County Times*. This paper, however, at that time, was published as *Progressive Country Life*, a sixteen-page paper devoted mainly to agriculture. The publication was changed to the present title in 1909, and made a six-column eight-page paper. The paper was established ten years ago and has been a

power for the development of this locality ever since, especially since the new management assumed control. It is one of the best papers of its kind ever published in Indiana. It is a weekly local paper, championing the principles of the Republican party, and advocating all kinds of improvements for the general good of the people of Parke and surrounding counties, and, needless to add, that it has accomplished much in this direction. The present owners have greatly improved its mechanical appearance, having strengthened its editorial columns and made it newsier and a more valuable advertising medium. Its circulation is increasing rapidly, is the largest in the county and it is to be seen by every fireside in this locality.

In connection with the regular publishing of the paper, there is main-

tained a most excellent and up-to-date job printing office, the motto of which is prompt service and high grade work, and they are well equipped in every respect for this line of work, in which department also they are well patronized, and always give honest and satisfactory results.

Mr. and Mrs. Sherrill understand well the various phases of newspaper work; they are versatile, clever, and conduct a modern newspaper. They have made many friends since coming to Parke county, are regarded as among Rockville's best citizens, and they are making their paper a factor for good in their locality.

---

#### DANIEL C. WILLIAMS.

Fifty years ago the flower of the young men of this country enlisted in her armies to fight the battle for liberty and union; freely they offered their lives a sacrifice to her good. Not from all of them did she demand this last measure of devotion, for many of them were allowed to return to her fields and shops and factories and offices, there to serve her by nobly performing the duties of peace. Among the number so many years ago laid their young manhood upon the altar of devotion to their country and whom she returned to their homes where the lessons of patriotism learned in war's experience might be translated into peaceful endeavor, was Daniel C. Williams, and but few of those who went out with him to the front have been spared so long as he, to aid in and to witness their country's recent marvelous growth and development.

Daniel C. Williams was born in Ross county, Ohio, in 1840, the son of Urias and Isabel Williams. In 1842, when he was but two years old, his parents moved from Ross county to what was then one of the newer portions of Indiana, settling near Rockville, in Parke county, Indiana, where Urias Williams created a farm out of the wilderness and spent the remainder of his life, being one of the respected and influential men of his time. Daniel C. Williams attended the common schools, and when his schooling was finished began to work for neighboring farmers. In 1862 he enlisted in Company A, Eighty-fifth Indiana Volunteer Infantry. His regiment became a part of the Army of the Cumberland, and took part in Sherman's famous march to the sea. The regiment then went north with General Sherman to Washington, and was there mustered out on June 12, 1865. Mr. Williams passed through three years of hard campaigning, and through it all bore himself as a soldier should, whatever the occasion. At the close of



the war he again took up farming, which he has since followed and in which he has been successful.

In August, 1867, Daniel C. Williams was married to Nancy J. Dowdell, and to them were born two sons, Otto D. and Delbert P. His second marriage was in July, 1880, to Armilda Grimes, to which union were born three children, Alma, Edna and Carl. Mr. Williams' religious affiliations are with the Methodist church. For seventy years he has been a resident of Parke county, and has seen his community grow from a pioneer settlement to one of the best improved farming districts in the country. Throughout this time he has fully taken the part he was able to take in this development, and he has always been devoted to the good of the community. Mr. Williams is a member of Altoona Post, Grand Army of the Republic, whose members are now becoming few in number, Father Time having claimed the most of them for his own.

---

#### AQUILLA LAVERTY.

The name of Aquilla Lavery is well remembered by the citizens of the Parke county community in which he spent the greater portion of his life and became one of its leading men in every respect. He was born to no fortune save the heritage of strong character; by his own efforts he accumulated a large amount of property, and by his interest in the welfare of all those who were his neighbors he became influential with an influence based upon true brotherly feeling for mankind. He did not spare himself when his country needed men in war, but cheerfully offered his life, and though his country returned it to him, and did not demand it on the field of battle, he spent his remaining years no less truly in her service.

Aquilla Lavery was born in Parke county, Indiana, on October 3, 1822, and departed from this life on November 30, 1896, aged seventy-four. He was the son of James and Margaret (Guffey) Lavery. James Lavery was a native of Pennsylvania, who removed to Kentucky, and later to Ohio, in which state he assisted in erecting the first buildings of the city of Columbus. In the winter of 1817-18 he came by wagon to Parke county, Indiana, where his brothers, John and Samuel, had preceded him, and settled on sixty acres of land. Besides James and his brothers mentioned, his remaining five brothers and sisters, Alexander, Polly, Mary, Rachel and Margaret, all moved to Indiana near the same time. James Lavery served in the war of

1812. He was twice married, and by his first marriage was the father of nine children: Jane, who married William Brockway; Cynthia, who married Thomas Melvin, and, after his death, Joshua Fisher; Samuel, who died at Powder River, Oregon; John, accidentally killed at the raising of a school house in 1832; Mary, who married John Bronson, and later James McNutt; Indiana, the wife of Hiram Brockway; Lucy A., Aquilla, and Alexander, who died in 1823. The mother of these children passed away in 1851, and afterwards James Laverty married Mrs. Saracida Woods, nee Luster, to which union were born two children, James, of Kansas, and Emily, Mrs. Albert Griffin. Margaret Guffey was a descendant of the old Scotch Guffey clan. She was born in Pennsylvania, the daughter of Captain Henry and Margaret (McDowell) Guffey. Captain Henry won his title in the war of 1812. He was killed by Indians in ambush while plowing on his farm with his gun strapped to his plow.

Aquilla Laverty attended the early loghouse schools, and when nineteen began to work by the month for ten dollars per month. He then farmed on rented land, saved some money, with one hundred dollars went to Galena, Illinois, and by prospecting in lead mines multiplied his money many times, then began building flatboats to run to New Orleans, making the trip nineteen times. In 1847 he purchased a farm of one hundred and thirty-seven acres in Wabash township. He prospered in his business undertakings, and increased his holdings to five thousand acres of land, besides other property. When the war broke out, he was running a steamboat on the Wabash river. He took a leading part in raising a company in the fall of 1861, and was offered its captaincy, but refused and went as a private soldier. He took part in the battle of Fort Donelson, was wounded at Shiloh, and was discharged at Indianapolis on account of his wounds, with the rank of corporal. In politics he was a Whig, and later a Republican. He was a figure of strong and commanding importance in all the earlier history of Parke county.

On September 12, 1851, Aquilla Laverty was married to Elizabeth Justus the daughter of Aquilla and Mary (Gormely) Justus, who came from Ohio to Parke county in 1824. To this marriage were born six children: Mary, deceased; Henry, deceased; George, Irena, Mrs. J. C. Casto, Erminie, Kittie C., and Jessie F., deceased. Mrs. Elizabeth Laverty passed from this life on August 2, 1890.

On January 30, 1895, Aquilla Laverty was married to Lillian Mann, the daughter of Albert and Harriet (Ward) Mann. Her parents were natives of New York state who emigrated to Indiana, and lived at Summit

Grove for thirty-five years. They had five children: Stella, deceased; Lillian; Frederick, of Summit Grove; Eva, now Mrs. Henry Gilmore, of Summit Grove; and Kate, who married Elmer Potter, of Summit Grove. Albert Mann died in 1904, aged sixty-four, and his widow is living with her daughter, Mrs. Laverty, at the age of sixty-eight. By his second marriage Aquilla Laverty was the father of two children, Aquilla, living at home with his mother, and Cecil Frederick, deceased. Mrs. Laverty resides in the handsome home erected by her across the road from the old homestead which he first purchased, and which became the center of his later large holdings.

---

### STEPHEN H. JEFFRIES.

One of Parke county's leading agriculturists and highly respected citizens is Stephen H. Jeffries, owner of a fine farm in Adams township, a man who has tried to keep fully abreast of the times in all that pertains to his vocation and who, while laboring for his own advancement, does not neglect his duties to his neighbors and the community in general. He has always stood ready to support such measures as make for the material and civic improvement of the county. He is a man of esthetic tastes and loves nature, being able to get a great deal of pleasure and benefit from the study of the things around him. He has ever borne an exemplary character.

Mr. Jeffries was born March 4, about 1850, in Clay county, Indiana, and is the son of Stephen and Elizabeth (Payne) Jeffries, the father a native of Fauquier county, Virginia, and who became an extensive planter there. Seven children constituted his family.

Stephen H. Jeffries grew up on his father's farm and there he worked during his boyhood days, attending the public schools during the winter months. When his mother died he worked out at farm work until he was about thirty years old. After working for some time in Frankfort, Indiana, he went to Edgar county, Illinois, where he rented land on which he farmed a while, then purchased eighty acres and lived there about thirteen years, during which time he got an excellent start in life, then sold out and came to Parke county, Indiana, buying his present farm, having added to the same later. It contains two hundred and forty acres which Mr. Jeffries has brought up to a high state of improvement and cultivation. It is well located about six miles from Rockville in one of the richest sections of the county. Here he is carrying on general farming and stock raising on an extensive scale

and is one of the most progressive agriculturists of the county. He has a commodious residence and a number of large, substantial outhouses.

Mr. Jeffries was married on October 26, 1884, to Laura E. Benson, daughter of Nathaniel and Mary (Ellson) Benson. To this union have been born six children, namely: Pearlie is deceased; Oscar, Charles, Ora and Carl, the sons, are all unmarried and at home; Grace Marie is the youngest. This family hold membership in the Baptist church at New Discovery.

---

#### HUGH MONTGOMERY.

Those who belong to the respectable middle classes of society, being early taught the necessity of relying upon their own exertions, will be more apt to acquire that information and those business habits which alone can fit them for the discharge of life's duties, and, indeed, it has long been a noticeable fact that our great men in nearly all walks of life in America spring from this class. The reasons are too evident to need enumerating here. Hugh Montgomery, well known furniture dealer and undertaker at Montezuma, Parke county, Indiana, whose life history we here briefly delineate, is a worthy representative of the class from which the true noblemen of the Republic spring, whether they be men of eminence in public affairs, the arts and sciences, or plain, every-day citizens, striving merely to lead useful, clean and upright lives.

Mr. Montgomery is a scion of a sterling old family of the Blue Grass state and many of the commendable characteristics of the Southerner have outcropped in him, so that he has always enjoyed the confidence and esteem of all who know him. He was born in Bowling Green, Indiana, August 17, 1870. He is the son of Andrew J. and Mary E. (Porter) Montgomery, both natives of Kentucky, where they grew to maturity, were educated and married and there spent their earlier lives. Andrew J. Montgomery was a man of considerable influence in his community and when the war between the states began he quite naturally cast his fortunes with the South and became an officer in the Confederate army, serving faithfully and gallantly under General Morgan. He saw considerable hard service, and after his military career he returned home and resumed a quiet life in Scott county, where he remained until in the seventies, when he settled in Bowling Green, Indiana, where he remained with his family until about 1884, when they returned to Scott county, and there the father of the subject of this sketch was killed in 1891. The widow subsequently removed to Indiana and her



death occurred in Clay county several years ago. They were the parents of five children, four sons and one daughter, Hugh, the subject, being the second in order of birth.

Hugh Montgomery grew to manhood under his parental roof-tree and received a good common school education. He lived at home until he was fourteen years of age, then went to Kentucky, continuing to reside there until 1903, when he removed to Montezuma, Parke county, Indiana, and here established his permanent home, soon engaging in the furniture and undertaking business, in which he was successful from the first. He was for some time in partnership with his brother, but since the year 1908 he has continued the business alone and has built up a wide and rapidly growing patronage, his patrons coming from all over this and adjoining counties. He always carries a complete and carefully selected stock of up-to-date furniture, and his hundreds of regular customers always find his prices right and receive considerate and courteous treatment.

Mr. Montgomery was married in Brazil, Indiana, in 1891, to Nellie D. Perry, a native of Brazil, Clay county, this state, and there she grew to womanhood and was educated. She is the daughter of Col. H. W. and Emma (Cole) Perry, a highly respected and well known family of that place.

Mr. Montgomery has always taken an active interest in public affairs and since coming to Parke county has been influential in the general progress of the town of Montezuma and vicinity. He was elected trustee of Reserve township in 1908 on the Democratic ticket, having secured the highest majority since the township was organized, which is certainly sufficient evidence of his popularity in his home township, and the eminent satisfaction he gave in this office was proof of the good judgment his constituents and friends manifested in his choice for the position. He keeps well posted on public matters and his support may always be depended upon in movements looking to the general good.

---

#### GEORGE E. MARKS.

While in the most of the farms in Indiana are to be traced three stages of development, taking place in three generations, there are some exceptions. Usually the grandfather of the present occupant opened the ground, and introduced agriculture, the father extended the area, and began using new methods and machinery, and the man of today has built a modern home and

farms scientifically. In the case of the old homestead of George E. Marks, in Liberty township, Parke county, Indiana, we find these three developments taking place in two generations, and see one of the prettiest and most productive farms in that part of the state.

George E. Marks is the son of James and Jane (Howey) Marks, who were both natives of Kentucky. James Marks came to Parke county in 1829, entering ground from the government when this state was only thinly settled, and the farmer had many dangers to overcome in connection with his work. They cleared their land and built their log cabin. Immediate shelter was needed, and they moved into their cabin before it was finished, it furnishing but a primitive protection from the weather, not even having any doors. Many hardships had to be endured before they had their house in good condition and the work on their farm successfully started. George E. Marks now owns the same farm which witnessed the trials of his mother and father. They had nine children, Lydia A., Jacob O., William S., Margaret R., Mary Jane, Kesiziah, James H., who was a fifer of Company E, One Hundred and Fifteenth Indiana Volunteer Infantry and who died in the army, Thomas M. and George E.

George E. Marks was born in Liberty township on March 22, 1848. He lived there all his early life, gaining a common school education. During his vacations he helped on the farm and his work on the old home place engendered a love for it which has caused him to still hold to that ground. As soon as he finished school he took up farming as his occupation for life, and is still actively engaged in his work.

Mr. Marks was married March 25, 1869, to Lydia A. Wilkey, the daughter of Willis and Mary (Lindley) Wilkey. Her parents settled here in 1830. She died October 23, 1911, at the age of sixty-one years, and the vacant place in the home is very keenly felt. Mr. and Mrs. Marks had four children, the oldest of whom is Horace Elmer. He married Piety May and they have one daughter, Doreen M. Horace resides in Rockville and is in the clothing business. James B. Marks married Armilda C. Allen, and they are the parents of three children, James G., Lydia D. and Mary K., who reside on the home farm. Jennie M. is the wife of Alvin Lindley. They live in Liberty township and have one child, George W. Mary Effie is dead.

George E. Marks has always been a hard working, honest and straightforward man, making friends throughout Parke county and gaining the respect of his neighbors. He is a Republican, but has held no office, his time

being taken up entirely by his duties at home. He still lives on the old homestead, that holds all the associations he holds dear, and sees in it the products of much of his life's work. It is such men as Mr. Marks that form the backbone of this country and build the foundations for all trading, manufacturing and invention that have made this a great nation.

---

### JOHN R. MILLER.

One of the oldest, best known and most respected names in Parke county, Indiana, is that of Miller. They have been residents of that county for many years, and have been active in building up that section of the country. The representative of the family during the present generation is John R. Miller, who lives on the land in Raccoon township which was first tilled by his grandfather, Tobias Miller.

Tobias Miller came from Butler county, Ohio, when the farms in Parke county were few and far between. It was in 1816 when he first broke the land in Raccoon township, built his home, and established a home in what was then almost a wilderness. He commenced farming there, and remained the rest of his days, leaving the land to his son, James N. Miller, who was born in 1827. James N. Miller became one of the richest farmers in that part of the country. He married Sarah Snow, a native of Parke county, who was born in 1825 and died in 1906. He survived her four years, dying in 1910. James N. and Sarah Miller had eight children: Alice married W. R. Clements; Joseph A. married Emily Bell; Martha A. is the wife of W. J. White; Emma married William Goodin; Maggie is the wife of Isaac M. Overpeck; George C., Dick and John R. Miller.

John R. Miller was born in Raccoon township, Parke county, May 10, 1857. He lived on the farm during his school days, working on the farm during his vacations and learning many valuable lessons. He became very much interested in the work, and after leaving school decided upon farming as his life occupation. He began farming at that time, and is still active. He was married, December 26, 1886, to Libby Cahill, the daughter of Jesse and Emma (Morris) Cahill, who were natives of Ohio. They have six children: Roy, Blanche, George, Edith, Pauline and Leone. The family are all members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and hold prominent places in the social as well as the business life of Parke county. Mr. Miller has devoted his life to

his family and his farm, and his reward is a large happy family and one of the most productive farms in Indiana. He has been an honest, industrious, and just citizen, and has won the honor and respect of his neighbors and friends, by straightforward, clean and just dealings with all. The lives of such men cause those who have lived in the large cities, and had their lungs filled with the smoke of the hundreds of factories, and their lives tarnished and stunted by hurry and limitation, to look with envy on that life, and acknowledge indeed that the farmer is the king of America.

---

### ALONZO O. BENSON.

So many of the men who have made a name for themselves by their work in their community today, are the grandsons of those who came to Indiana when the country was a wilderness, cut away the forest and claimed the land for agriculture. It took bravery in those days to face the uncertainties of an unknown country and carve out a home by pure physical force. Those men gave to their sons a great heritage, and the latter brought the land to a higher state of cultivation and improved the farms greatly. But it takes none the less courage, and that of a more mental quality, to meet the problems of today that confronts the grandsons of those first-comers. Among those who have been foremost in facing these questions in Parke county is Alonzo O. Benson, in whose blood runs the courage that meant so much to his forefathers and whose sagacity is meet to face every obstruction in the pathway of the welfare of his community.

His grandfather, Samuel Benson, came to Parke county in 1820 and settled in Raccoon township, on a farm where he worked during life. He left the place to his son, Benjamin Thomas Watson Benson, who was born in Raccoon township. Benjamin Benson married Susan Moore, and they had four children: Charles E. was born in Raccoon township, as was also Alonzo O.; Franklin Benson died at the age of three years, and Samuel L. when he was only eighteen months old.

Alonzo O. Benson was born February 27, 1860. He lived on the farm when he was a boy and attended the common school in Parke county. On June 29, 1904, he married Myra S. Baker, daughter of Samuel N. and Mary Frances (Knapp) Baker. Samuel N. Baker was a native of Parke county, his father having come from Kentucky as a potter, and moved to Rockville.



Myra S. and Alonzo O. Benson have only one child, Watson Lambert, who is at home.

Mr. Benson has been in Bridgeton, Indiana, in the livery business for twenty-five years, and he has been very successful. During the last twenty years he has also been an undertaker and funeral director. Although he has given his business his careful attention, Mr. Benson has found the time to also serve his community in many ways. Besides being an active and reliable citizen for over half a century, he has held a number of positions of trust in his community. Mr. Benson was trustee for two years. He is ex-chairman of the county council, which position he held for four years, and he has been a member of that body for eight years. Mr. Benson is a Republican, and has always been active in the politics of his community, taking a firm stand on all questions that appealed to his sense of justice and the general good. His wife has also been very active in the questions of the community. She is a native of Rockville, Indiana, and was identified with the schools of Parke county, particularly those of Rockville and Rosedale for over twelve years. Their influence in the community is always for something better in education, politics, business and social life, and their work will bring forth fruit in unknown ways for many years.

---

### JAMES H. KERR.

The man who is really great is he who can always find at hand some good to accomplish, and goes to work at it with a courage and industry that win. His work is usually so entwined with the interests of his native community, and his actions reflect so much good to his neighborhood that to see what has been accomplished in his immediate vicinity is to know something of the man. For this reason the history of Parke county would be very incomplete without marked mention of the life and work of James H. Kerr, of Bridgeton, Raccoon township, Parke county, Indiana. He and his father before him have taken such a leading part in the building up of that country that the name of Kerr is well known, and honored wherever it is known.

James H. Kerr is the son of James and Mary (Hartman) Kerr. James Kerr, Sr., was born in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, and lived there until he was eight years old. At that time there was a general westward movement, and the Kerr family joined the migration to the west, settling first in Fleming county, Kentucky. They stayed there for only two years.

however, and then went to Mason county, Kentucky. In 1816 Mr. James Kerr first came to Indiana, and bought land. At that time Indiana was very thinly settled and there were no houses at all in Parke county. During the next two years Mr. Kerr made frequent trips back and forth between Kentucky and Indiana. Finally, in 1822, the family moved to Indiana, and Mr. Kerr took up farming. He had twelve children, three of whom are still living. He died in 1876, at the age of eighty-five. His wife was a native of Virginia, and moved to Parke county, Indiana, in 1818. She died in 1884, at the age of eighty-three years.

James H. Kerr was born in Raccoon township, Parke county, Indiana, August 22, 1839. He lived the life of the farm lad of that day, attending the common schools, helping on the home farm, and enjoying the healthful sports of the country. The school house was one of the type known now-a-days only in fiction, and the seats from which James H. Kerr learned his three R's were logs, split in two, and propped up on pins for legs. As soon as he was through with school Mr. Kerr turned his attention to farming, and was progressing rapidly in his agricultural education when the call "To Arms" came, and he left all to take his place in the ranks of the army of the Union. He enlisted in 1861 in Company H of the Second Indiana Cavalry, in the Army of the Cumberland, taking part in the battle of Shiloh and other engagements on the way. He was mustered out in July, 1862, and discharged at Indianapolis because of sickness.

Mr. Kerr was married March 10, 1863, to Mari H. Nichols, the daughter of Andrew J. Nichols. She died in 1895, at the age of fifty-two years. They had six children, Ella Edna, George, James and Mary E., who are living, and Hattie M. and Grace V., who are dead. On June 10, 1897, he was married to Edith A. Gillet and they have had three children, Paul S., Samuel E. and Mabel Esther.

As soon as he returned from the army and regained his health Mr. Kerr took up farming and was active in the farm work until 1899, when he retired. He has been very successful in his farming, bringing his land to a high state of cultivation.

He has found time, however, to also take a great deal of interest in the public affairs of his community, and has always taken an active part in the political life of his county. Although he is a successful man of the old school, Mr. Kerr is not narrowed in his perception and has not allowed himself to get into such habits of thought that he cannot see what is good in new ideas, and his views on all the problems that confront the country

today are those of the young, progressive thought, tempered to a degree through experience. Mr. Kerr is a Progressive. He has always been a prominent political figure in Parke county, being the only man who has been elected the second term to a position of trustee in his township. He is an ex-county commissioner, which office he held for six years. He was county trustee for five years, and held the office of township assessor for two years. Mr. Kerr had an ample political education, his father being elected to the Legislature for five terms, and he has put his knowledge into practice for the good of his county.

Mr. Kerr is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and has been active in church work. He has always used his political prominence for the good of his community and is very popular in Parke county. It is well for any county when they put their political power in the hands of men who know how it can best be used to promote the general good and who are brave enough to carry out the plans of the people in spite of heavy odds. James H. Kerr has done this for Parke county and the people there will long feel the influence of his personality and his work will live long after him.

---

### JOHN W. GILMORE.

The Scotch have brought to this country some of the most valuable traits that make the American citizen. The Scotchman in this county always stands for the highest integrity and his unceasing industry and careful attention to his task have put him in places of trust wherever he is found. The kindly nature of the Scotchman and the quiet good humor with which he meets the perplexing problems that come up in the business world, together with his tact in working with his fellows, have often placed him in positions of authority. Although he has spent almost his entire life in this country and is a capable American business man, John W. Gilmore, of Diamond, Raccoon township, Parke county, Indiana, has brought into his life many of the Scotch traits and he stands in a prominent place in the life of his community.

John W. Gilmore was born in Scotland, January 5, 1881, and lived in that country for eleven months, at which age he was brought to the United States. His first home on this side of the Atlantic was in Brazil, Indiana, where he lived for twenty years, and received his education in the common

schools. On October 3, 1900, he was married to Jennie Spence, who was a native of this state, having been born about three miles north of Brazil, Indiana, on April 10, 1885. She received a common school education also. They have four children: Evelina was born July 12, 1901; Sarah, on May 28, 1904; Georgine, on March 12, 1906; and James, on March 2, 1909. Sarah, Georgine and James were born at Diamond, Indiana. Evelina was born at Cardonia, Indiana.

Soon after he finished school Mr. Gilmore started trapping in the mines near Brazil, Indiana. Later he worked as a miner for about a year, and commenced firing. Mr. Gilmore was a hard worker and very competent and thorough in his work, and as a result he soon became an engineer with the Brazil Block Company. In 1902 John W. Gilmore moved to Parke county, Indiana, locating at Diamond, Raccoon township. He accepted a position with the Brazil Coal Company in that district, and has proved a very valuable man to them. He is now the engineer for Mine No. 9.

In the ten years in which he has lived in that community, Mr. Gilmore has proved himself a reliable citizen and a man worthy to be respected by his neighbors and friends. He has made this land his own, as have so many of those who have come here from the old country, and is as loyal as if this were his native soil. For such men as these, bringing new blood into the country, any community should be grateful, especially when they prove themselves such additions to the social, political and business life of the place as Mr. Gilmore, their place in the history of the county is established.

---

#### MILO J. RUDY.

From the pioneer period through many decades the subject of this sketch has been identified with the history of Vermillion county, Indiana, and has won for himself an honorable position in the circles in which he has moved, being a distinct type of the successful, self-made man. Not a pretentious or exalted life has been his, but one that has been true to itself, and to which the biographer may revert with feelings of respect and satisfaction. His life has been identified with agricultural activities of his community and he gained a good reputation as an intelligent and successful tiller of the soil. He is recognized as a man of alert mentality, deeply interested in every thing pertaining to the advancement of the community along material, civic and moral



lines, and is generally recognized as one of the representative men of the locality in which he lives.

Milo J. Rudy was born on October 21, 1839, in Highland township, Vermillion county, Indiana, and is the son of Jacob and Catherine (Lilly) Rudy. The subject's paternal grandfather, Martin Rudy, was a native of Germany, who emigrated to the United States, taking passage on a sailing vessel which required sixteen weeks to make the voyage. Landing in New York City, the family went to Pennsylvania, locating near Williamsport. In 1832 he made the long and tedious overland journey to Rockville, Indiana, then, the following year, located in Vermillion county, where his remaining years were spent. He was the father of eight children, namely: Margaret, Jacob (father of the subject), Andrew, Elizabeth, one that died in infancy, Martha, John and Christina.

Jacob Rudy was born in Switzerland in 1818, and his death occurred on January 31, 1880. His wife died in 1840, at the early age of thirty-five years. They were the parents of four children, namely: Martin, Catherine, John and Milo J. Jacob Rudy secured his education in the common schools and during his active years followed the vocation of a shoemaker. He was a man of splendid personal qualities and enjoyed to a marked degree the esteem of all who knew him.

Milo J. Rudy secured his education in the public schools of his home community and upon attaining mature years he engaged in farming, to which vocation the major part of his life has been devoted. He has given thoughtful and intelligent direction to all his efforts and he has been rewarded with a fair measure of success, so that he has for many years been numbered among the substantial and representative men of his section of the county. In March, 1912, Mr. Rudy assisted in the organization of the Perrysville Bank, which has a capital of ten thousand dollars, and of which he is vice-president.

Politically, Mr. Rudy is a staunch supporter of the Democratic party and has rendered efficient service as trustee of Highland township. He is a trustee of the Colletts Orphans' Home, near Cayuga. Religiously, he is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, of which he is an earnest supporter by his time and means.

On January 13, 1869, Mr. Rudy married Sophia S. Lesce, the daughter of Samuel and Harriet (English) Lesce, natives of Maryland and early settlers in Vermillion county. To Mr. and Mrs. Rudy no children were born, but they reared a boy, who is known as Alonzo L. Rudy. Mrs. Rudy, who was born on August 21, 1844, died on February 25, 1904, aged sixty years.

She was a woman of many gracious qualities of head and heart and her loss was deeply regretted by a large circle of friends. Her father, Samuel Lesce, was born in Maryland in 1832, while her maternal grandfather, Charles English, was born on September 9, 1786, his daughter Harriet, Mrs. Rudy's mother, being born on December 18, 1813.

Though now advanced in years, Mr. Rudy still takes a keen interest in public affairs and is numbered among the leading citizens of his section of the county. A pleasing and unusual relic of other days is in his possession, in the shape of the first baby clothes which were put on him nearly three-quarters of a century ago. They are hand-made and are in an excellent state of preservation.

---

### RICHARD F. CHURCH.

Vermillion county has a popular and efficient public official and progressive man of affairs in the person of Richard F. Church, of Helt township, a man who has always made it a point to do well whatever task he found to be done, whether in line of public duty or for himself and family, and, being a man who keeps well posted and a keen observer by nature, he has never been found behind the times, and his influence for the betterment of his community has been most potent in every way.

Mr. Church was born in Helt township, Vermillion county, Indiana, February 12, 1850, the son of Josiah and Fannie (Ford) Church. His paternal grandfather, Manson Church, was a native of Vermont, where he spent his boyhood and from there he came to Fountain county, Indiana, in an early day. There the father of the subject was born, and there he grew to manhood, was educated and when a young man he established his future home in Vermillion county and here was married. He settled first on Helt Prairie, later moving to the old James land, which he bought for one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre, which land was entered from the government by Elijah B. James. Here Mr. Church went to work with a will, cleared up the land and developed a good farm, becoming one of the substantial men of the neighborhood. His family consisted of twelve children, namely: Richard F., of this sketch, being the oldest; Manson L., Nancy, Susan, Merina Jane, Mary Catherine; Josiah Otis is deceased; Eliza Ann, Joel Lincoln, Lewis Morton, George Wilbur, and John Augustus.

Josiah Church was a Republican and for some time was constable in his township.

Richard F. Church grew to manhood on the home farm in Helt township, and there he received a good common school education, continuing to work for his father until manhood, and he has made farming his life work, being very successful and is now in possession of a good farm and a pleasant home as a result of his industry and close application.

In 1870 Mr. Church was married to Eliza Ellen Michael, daughter of John and Missouri (Edward) Michael, both natives of Kentucky, from which state they removed to Missouri in an early day and were living there when the subject was married. Eleven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Church, namely: Ollie May, Josiah Otis, Orpha Myrtle, Clarence E., Oscar F., Ren A., William Frederick, Lewis Evan, Ruth B.; Harry A. and Roy are both deceased.

Mr. Church has been deputy township assessor one term, also supervisor and school director, discharging the duties of the office most worthily and acceptably. Religiously, he belongs to the Methodist church.

---

#### BIRD H. DAVIS.

Bird Herman Davis, oldest son of Samuel Brenton and Sarah Canady Davis, was born in Newport, Indiana, April 29, 1869, and has lived in the little county-seat town under the "famous big hill" all the time since. His education was obtained in the Newport schools. He has been connected with the *Hoosier State* all of his life, having filled every position about the office from "devil" up to editor. He began "up-ending the cold metal" at nine years of age; at seventeen he was foreman and at twenty-four he was editor and manager.

In March, 1887, he received the appointment to the West Point Military Academy from Congressman James T. Johnston, of Rockville, having won the honor in a competitive examination against twenty-one others. He reported to the academy in June, 1887, but the army surgeons rejected him on account of his physique, he being five feet ten and only weighed one hundred and twenty-six. He weighs two hundred and ten now.

Mr. Davis was married May 9, 1894, to Grace Carter. They have



BIRD H. DAVIS.





three children, Shell Carter Davis, Jennie Doyne Davis and Samuel Brenton Davis.

He is a member of the Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias and Masonic lodges. He has received all the honors of the subordinate lodge of Independent Order of Odd Fellows, having been secretary of the local lodge for eight years and is now a trustee of the local order. He represented the lodge in the grand body at Indianapolis and in that body was appointed a member of the committee on Daughters of Rebekah and was appointed proof reader for the year 1912.

He was appointed a member (as a Republican) of the board of trustees of the Southern Indiana Hospital for the Insane by Gov. J. Frank Hanly in May, 1907, and was re-appointed by Gov. Thomas R. Marshall in May, 1911. He served as secretary of the board for the first four years and has been president of the board for two years.

He is also president and secretary of the Newport Cemetery Association and president of the Newport Building and Loan Association.

He was secretary during the last campaign of the Republican county central committee. He filled that position during three other campaigns.

---

### CHARLES HENRY MEYERS.

One of the best known of the younger business men of Clinton, Vermillion county, is Charles Henry Meyers, a man who is the possessor of indomitable courage, industry and progressive ideas and whose code of business ethics has ever been of the best, consequently he enjoys the confidence and good will of those with whom he comes into contact, and, being a genial, obliging, genteel gentleman, he is popular with a wide circle of friends and acquaintances.

Mr. Meyers was born in Terre Haute, Vigo county, Indiana, October 30, 1875, and is a son of Henry and Eliza (Hinzes) Meyers. The father was born in Germany, where he spent his early life and when a young man he emigrated to the United States, landing at New York City, from which place he came direct to Terre Haute. He was accompanied by his wife, who also was a native of Germany, where they grew up, were educated and married. The elder Meyers was a book-binder by trade and followed that all his life. He became very comfortably established in Terre Haute, where he spent the rest of his life and where he died in 1878, and there the mother is still living

They became the parents of eight children, namely: Albert, Emma, Court, Fritz H., Alvina, Henry, Mamie, and Charles H., the subject, who is the youngest of the family.

Charles H. Meyers was reared to manhood in Terre Haute and he received a good education in the common schools there, also took a course in Carvin's Business College. He then entered the mercantile business, which he followed two years, after which he came to Clinton and went into the restaurant and bakery business, later took up the hotel business, operating successfully the Hotel Clinton, also started a wholesale bakery business, both of which he has continued to the present time and is eminently successful in both, his hotel being popular with the traveling public and his bakery products are sent all over this section of the state, there being an eager demand for his goods owing to their uniform high grade quality. Mr. Meyers has met with a large measure of success in a business way, being a man of keen discernment and good judgment, and he is a fine specimen of a progressive, virile, self-made man, possessing those qualities that would have brought him success in any field of endeavor.

Fraternally, Mr. Meyers is a member of the Free and Accepted Masons, the Knights of Pythias, and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

On September 14, 1905, he was united in marriage to Nellie Lambert, daughter of George and Melissa (Sheppard) Lambert. Both the Lambert and Sheppard families are old settlers of Vermillion county and highly respected people, and here Mrs. Meyers grew to womanhood and received her education. To Mr. and Mrs. Meyers three children have been born, namely: Carl, Frederick and Alice, all at home.

---

#### DARWIN ANDREWS.

The subject of this sketch is known to his many friends and acquaintances as one of the leading citizens and business men of the town of Dana and one of the worthiest native sons of Vermillion county, being a man of progressive ideas and at all times ready to do his part in furthering any interest for the public good.

Darwin Andrews was born in Vermillion county, Indiana, April 29, 1857, and is a son of James and Hannah (Puffer) Andrews, the father born in Vermillion county in 1834 and the mother was a native of Deerfield, Massa-

chusetts, born November 22, 1822, from which state her family removed to the state of New York in 1839. She married, first, William Rhodes, January 21, 1845, and to them were born three children, two now living, William Rhodes, a merchant at Dana, and Mrs. Didama McDonald, of Memphis, Tennessee. William Rhodes died November 6, 1851, and in July, 1856, she was married to James Andrews, and they had four children, three living. She died in October, 1895. James Andrews grew to manhood in his native locality and received his education in the common schools. When the Civil war came on he enlisted in 1862 at Terre Haute in the Eighty-fifth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, under Captain Bales. Among the engagements in which the elder Andrews participated was that of Resaca, Georgia, in which battle he was killed May 15, 1865.

Darwin Andrews is one of a family of four children, three of whom are still living, the others being Courtland Andrews and Miss Maryland Andrews, both of Urbana, Illinois. He grew to manhood in this county and received his education in the common schools. On December 5, 1880, he married Lula E. Downs, who was born May 16, 1859. Mrs. Andrews grew to womanhood in this vicinity and received a good common school education.

To the subject and wife four children were born, Lavere, whose birth occurred September 6, 1889, being the only surviving one. She married Raymond B. Mouser, of Hanover, Indiana, an enterprising young business man who is engaged in merchandising with Mr. Andrews, of this review. Mrs. Mouser grew to womanhood at Dana and is a graduate of the high school there, later taking a course in a commercial college at Indianapolis.

Darwin Andrews began life for himself as a farmer, which he followed with pronounced success until 1886, when he turned his attention to merchandising, in partnership with W. M. Rhodes, under the firm name of Rhodes & Andrews, which continued successfully until 1901, when Mr. Andrews went into business for himself, which he has continued to the present time, his son-in-law now being with him. A large and carefully selected general stock is carried, also dry goods, and a very extensive business is carried on with the town and the surrounding country, many of their regular customers coming from remote distances.

Mr. Andrews has been very successful in a business way and has accumulated a competency through his close application and good management. He owns a large, attractive home in Dana and some good business lots there. Politically, he is a Democrat and while he takes much interest in the affairs



of his community in a public way, he is not by any means a politician. Fraternally, he belongs to the Modern Woodmen, and he is one of the pillars of the local Methodist church, being a trustee in the same and he assisted in building the present church edifice.

---

### DANIEL S. STRONG, M. D.

The medical profession of Vermillion county has a very able and popular representative at Dana in the person of Dr. Daniel S. Strong, a young man who seems to combine all the natural characteristics of head and heart for a successful physician, at least he has had continuous success and is well liked by the people, although he has not been long established in our midst, but judging from his excellent start the future promises much for him.

Daniel S. Strong was born February 24, 1878, in Santa Cruz, California, a son of Alex. U. and Saphronia E. (McCampbell) Strong, both natives of Indiana, and both still living, making their home in Parke county, where they are engaged in general farming. They are the parents of eight children, six of whom are still living.

Dr. Strong received a good preparatory education in the common schools, later taking a course in the Bloomingdale Academy, and a business course in Indianapolis, but, finally determining upon a medical course, he went to Cincinnati, and entered the Eclectic Medical College, where he made a splendid record and from which institution he was graduated with the class of 1908. He soon after established himself at the town of Hillsdale, Vermillion county, where he soon had a very lucrative practice and where he remained until he came to Dana in June, 1912, where his fame as a general practitioner had preceded him, and here he has enjoyed a large and rapidly growing practice, which extends over this part of the county and he often responds to calls from remote parts of the locality.

Dr. Strong was married on January 27, 1903, to Essie B. Baldridge, of Terre Haute, who was born October 4, 1882, and she received a good common school education. To this union two children have been born, Kathleen Ruth, born October 15, 1905, and Gertrude, born March 7, 1909. They are both winsome little lassies, who add much sunshine to the cozy home of their parents. Dr. Strong and wife own a good residence in Dana.

Fraternally, Dr. Strong belongs to the Masonic order at Judson; the

Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and the Modern Woodmen, both at Hillsdale, this county. He has been active and influential in these bodies for some time. He is a member of the Presbyterian church. He takes considerable interest in politics, being a staunch Democrat, and in 1909 he was elected county collector, which office he still holds to the satisfaction of all concerned.

---

### JACOB G. DAVIS.

In giving a list of the enterprising and respected citizens in Parke and Vermillion counties none is deemed worthier of representation in a work of this nature than Jacob G. Davis, the well known business man of the town of Dana; not that he has accomplished startlingly big things or served in high public positions, but that he has been a man of industry and honesty, of public spirit and helpful to those about him, such men being needed in every community.

Mr. Davis was born June 5, 1865, in Vigo county, Indiana, the son of W. T. and Mary (Bonty) Davis, the father a native of Virginia and the mother of Parke county, Indiana. The father came to Indiana when a small boy and here spent the rest of his life, engaged in general farming until fifteen years before his death, when he gave up farming and established a meat market. The mother of our subject passed away on August 8, 1875. They were the parents of seven children, five of whom are still living.

Jacob G. Davis grew up in his home community and received his education in the common schools. After he became of age he began in the meat market business, which he has followed with much success for a period of twenty-seven years, enjoying a wide patronage and a lucrative business, having worked for himself exclusively for the past fifteen years. He owns and operates the only meat market in Dana. His place is well equipped and here the public is always enabled to secure what it wants in the meat line at all seasons. He owns his place of business and the home where his son lives, also twenty-six acres of good land northeast of Dana, all tillable and well tilled, on which is a good cattle barn and slaughter yard.

Fraternally, Mr. Davis belongs to the Masonic order, the Knights of Pythias and the Woodmen, all at Dana. He belongs to the Methodist church and is a trustee in the same. Politically, he is a Republican and is much in-

terested in local public affairs, having aided in no small way in the development of his community along all lines.

Mr. Davis was married on March 23, 1889, to Rosella D. Landers, who was born on December 6, 1889, in Vermillion county, Indiana, and reared and educated here. She is a daughter of Lyon R. Landers. To this union five children have been born: William H., who married Lilly Randolph; Ernest E. L., Byron Baily, Milton A. and Joseph.

---

#### ASA A. HESS.

One of the successful, self-made men of Vermillion county is Asa A. Hess, formerly a hardware merchant at Dana, but now engaged in the insurance business. He is a man of marked enterprise and capability, and he carries forward to successful completion whatever he undertakes. He has long been an important factor in business circles in this locality and his popularity is well deserved, as in him are embraced the characteristics of an unabating energy, unbending integrity and industry that never flags.

Mr. Hess was born in Edgar county, Illinois, April 19, 1873, the son of Samuel and Thana (McGuire) Hess, both parents natives of Pennsylvania, in which state they grew up, were educated and married. The father devoted his life to agricultural pursuits, and his death occurred on April 1, 1881, at the age of forty-four years. Five children were born to Samuel Hess and wife, namely: Lena died in infancy; Clinton is deceased; Asa A., subject of this sketch; Ira, who lives at Clinton, Indiana; and Della, who resides at Dana, this state.

Asa A. Hess grew to manhood on the home farm and there he assisted with the general work when he became of proper age. He attended night school for a time in his youth, but he is principally self-educated, having remained a student all his life, and is widely read. On June 20, 1909, he was united in marriage to Edith L. Clover, daughter of William and Alice Clover, both natives of Indiana. Mrs. Hess's paternal grandparents were early settlers in this section of the state. The union of the subject and wife has been without issue.

Mr. Hess has always taken an abiding interest in public affairs and he is at this writing city treasurer of Dana. For six years he was successfully engaged in the hardware business at Dana, enjoying an excellent trade with

the town and surrounding country, always carrying a large stock, under the firm name of Hess & Hess. He then took an automobile agency in Indiana and built up a large business in this field. About two years ago he took up an insurance business at Dana, which he has since continued and in which he is making a pronounced success.

Mr. Hess is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and a liberal supporter of the same. He has long taken a great deal of interest in the affairs of Dana and community and has done much in the upbuilding and general progress of the same, his efforts being fully appreciated by all.

---

### JESSE E. HADDON.

The names of those men who have distinguished themselves through the possession of those qualities which daily contribute to the success of private life and to the public stability and who have enjoyed the respect and confidence of those about them, should not be permitted to perish. Such a one is Jesse E. Haddon, well known druggist at Dana, Vermillion county, and formerly post-master at that place, a veteran of the Spanish-American war and a man who has proven his patriotism and public spirit on numerous occasions.

Mr. Haddon was born in Sullivan county, Indiana, March 29, 1870, the son of James and Nancy (Short) Haddon, the father also a native of Sullivan county. He devoted his life to agricultural pursuits, and both he and his wife are now deceased, the death of the subject's mother having occurred when he was young.

Jesse E. Haddon was reared on his father's farm in Sullivan county, on which he worked when of proper age, during the crop seasons, and in the winter time he attended the public schools, then entered Darmutt Central Normal College, where he studied pharmacy, and after his graduation there he began teaching school in Sullivan county, which he followed with success for some time. At the commencement of the Spanish-American war he enlisted in the hospital corps of the United States army and served throughout the war in Cuba and Porto Rico, in a most faithful and efficient manner. He was discharged on April 8, 1899. Returning to Indiana, he took up the drug business at Dana in 1900 and has continued the same to the present time with ever-increasing success, enjoying a large patronage with the town and sur-



rounding country, always carrying a complete and carefully selected stock of drugs and drug sundries.

Mr. Haddon was married in 1902 to Margaret Griffiths, daughter of John E. and Jane (James) Griffiths, both born in Wales, from which country they came to the United States about 1870, when the wife of the subject was about eight years old. The Griffiths reside in Clinton township, Vermillion county, and a fuller sketch of them will be found elsewhere in this work.

Four children have been born to the subject and wife, namely: John, James, Eugene and Max, all at home with their parents.

Mr. Haddon has always taken a deep interest in public affairs and his support may always be depended upon in any movement looking to the general development of his community. He was postmaster at Dana under Roosevelt's administration, discharging the duties of the same in a manner that was highly acceptable to the people and the department. Fraternally, he belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Knights of Pythias, both in Sullivan county. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

---

### JAMES F. BURNETT.

A citizen of Helt township, Vermillion county, Indiana, who is too well known to the readers of this history to need a formal introduction here is James F. Burnett, for here he has spent practically all his life and has been active in the affairs of the township and county, always supporting such measures as made for the general success of the same, and he has led a life that has upheld the good name of his progenitors. He is one of our honored veterans of the Civil war, and for many reasons is eligible to representation in this work along with other leading citizens of this and Parke county.

Mr. Burnett was born in Helt township, Vermillion county, Indiana, June 17, 1844, and is a son of James F., Sr., and Rosanna (Kaufman) Burnett, the father a native of Kentucky and the mother of North Carolina. The former was seven years of age when he came to Indiana with his parents, his father, William Burnett, locating in Sullivan county, near the town of Merom. He was a miller and followed that in connection with farming all his life. James F. Burnett, Sr., grew to manhood in Sullivan county and was educated in the common schools there, and there he was married, after which he moved to Vermillion county and located about two miles east of Dana, and there he con-

tinued to reside until his son, James F., Jr., was seven years old, at which time he removed to the town of Dana, where he spent the balance of his life. His family consisted of eight children, namely: William is deceased; Samuel is deceased; Mary Tabitha was next in order of birth; James F., of this review; Hester is deceased; Joel lives in Hutchinson, Kansas; Hannah lives in Vermillion county; Leaner died when eleven months old.

Of the above named children, three proved their patriotism during the national crisis in the early sixties by enlisting in defense of the flag. William enlisted in 1861 in Company I, Thirty-first Indiana Volunteer Infantry; he was captured at the battle of Chickamauga and was confined in Libby prison, later removed from there to Andersonville, where he died December 15, 1864. Samuel enlisted early in the war in Company G, Seventy-first Indiana Volunteer Infantry and was captured at Tazewell, Tennessee, January 19, 1864, and sent to Andersonville prison, where he died June 16, 1864. James F., the subject, enlisted on February 13, 1863, in Company G, Seventy-first Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and he served very faithfully in the Army of the Cumberland, fighting with that great division of the Union army in many important battles and participating in a number of campaigns. He was captured at Macon, Georgia, and sent to Andersonville in 1864, and was paroled in 1865, returning to his company after being exchanged. He relates with much interest the horrors of that terrible prison, and had he not been a young man with an iron constitution he could not have survived. He was awhile at the front in General Stoneman's cavalry, and accompanied Sherman on the Atlanta campaign, later being sent to relieve prisoners at Andersonville and was captured. He has in his possession a roster of the survivors of Andersonville, which shows between eight hundred and nine hundred names.

Mr. Burnett was married on November 11, 1866, to Frances Whalen, daughter of James and Lydia Ann (Wright) Whalen. These parents formerly lived near the great Mammoth cave in Kentucky. The father devoted his life to blacksmithing. His family consisted of seven children, namely: Frances, Ardella, Rachael, James, Monroe, Mary and Nancy. Mr. Whalen came to Edgar county, Illinois, where he settled at the town of Paris, and there the wife of the subject was born March 24, 1845. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Burnett, namely: William, John, Fred, Otis; Morton, who was drowned in Kansas, after 1900.

Mr. Burnett has been elected four different times marshal of the town of Dana, and has given the utmost satisfaction in this capacity, having the

confidence and good will of the people whom he has sought to serve honestly and as ably as possible. His chief life work has been farming.

Mr. Burnett is a member of the Baptist church, and of the H. D. Washburn Post No. 220, Grand Army of the Republic. His grandfather, William Burnett, was a soldier under General Jackson at New Orleans.

---

### JOHN W. REDMAN.

The efforts of John W. Redman, well known furniture dealer and undertaker at Dana, Indiana, and formerly joint representative to the Indiana Legislature, have proven of the greatest value to his fellow citizens as well as to himself. He has shaped his career along worthy lines, and his efforts have been discerningly directed along well defined channels of endeavor. He is a man of distinct individuality, of marked sagacity, of undaunted enterprise, and in manner he is genial, courteous and easily approached. His career has ever been such as to warrant the trust and confidence of the business world and his activity in industrial, commercial and civic circles forms no unimportant chapter in the history of Vermillion county.

Mr. Redman was born in Helt township, Vermillion county, Indiana, January 25, 1855. He is a son of Wesley and Martha (Wishard) Redman, the father a native of Virginia and the mother of Kentucky. Wesley Redman was young in years when he came with his father and settled in Helt township, this county, two and one-half miles east of Dana, where the family became well established and well known. The father of the subject devoted his life to general farming and stock raising. His death occurred in 1855, when his son, John W., was but nine months old. The mother survived until October 8, 1866, passing away when the subject was eleven years old. Two children were born to Wesley Redman and wife, Margaret J., who married J. P. Merriweather, is deceased, and John W., of this review.

John W. Redman was educated in the common schools of Helt township, also spent one year in Bloomingdale Academy and three months in a commercial college at Terre Haute. He began life for himself as a general farmer, which he continued several years, then went into the furniture and undertaking business at Dana, which he has continued with ever-increasing success to the present time, having been thus engaged since July 20, 1876. He draws his customers from over a very wide territory. He always carries an excellent

and up-to-date line of furniture, and promptness and high grade service as an undertaker is his aim.

Mr. Redman was married on November 13, 1877, to Maria Taylor, daughter of Samuel and Nancy E. (Henderson) Taylor. The father died in 1869. The mother, who makes her home with the subject, has attained the advanced age of ninety-two years, and is in very good health.

Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Redman, Charles W., born December 10, 1878, died August 8, 1886, when six years old, and Claude M., born October 27, 1880, married Essie Pauley, daughter of W. H. Pauley and wife; two children have been born to them, Edward, whose birth occurred on October 27, 1903, and Francis, who was born on June 5, 1906.

Mr. Redman has always taken a deep interest in public affairs, and has been an influential factor in the Democratic party in this locality for more than a quarter of a century. He was postmaster at Dana during Cleveland's first administration, from April, 1885, to June, 1889. He was elected joint representative from Vigo, Vermillion and Sullivan counties in 1892, and served one term, during which he did much for the good of this section and made his influence felt for the general good. As a public servant he ever discharged his duties in a manner that reflected much credit upon himself and to the eminent satisfaction of his constituents.

Fraternally, Mr. Redman is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and is a charter member of the Knights of Pythias; also belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America, all at Dana. In religious matters he holds membership in the Methodist Episcopal church.

---

### EDWARD JONES.

In such men as Edward Jones, well known mine expert of Clinton township, Vermillion county, there is peculiar satisfaction in offering their life histories as justification for the compilation of works of this character—not that their lives have been such as to gain them particularly wide notoriety or the admiring plaudits of men, but that they have been true to the trusts reposed in them, have shown such attributes of character as entitle them to the regard of all.

Mr. Jones was born in Clay City, Clay county, Indiana, August 18, 1878, and he is a son of Edward Jones, Sr., and Susan (Spoonmore) Jones.



the father a native of Wales and the mother of Kentucky. The elder Mr. Jones spent his early life in his native country, but desiring a land of greater opportunities, he came to America in 1867 and located in Brazil, Indiana, where he followed the mines in various capacities for some time, then came to Parke county, this state, about 1884, settling at Sand Creek, where he continued with the mines. His family consisted of eight children, namely: Ellen, Kittie (who died when young), Edward, of this sketch, Philip, Sadie, William, Thomas and Gertie.

Edward Jones, Jr., grew up under the parental roof-tree and received a common school education. Early in life he turned his attention to mining and has continued to follow the same in various phases of endeavor. At this writing he is mine boss for J. K. Deering & Company, who own and operate No. 3 Klondike mine, which has a capacity of two thousand tons of coal daily and is one of the valuable mines of Vermillion county. Mr. Jones is responsible for everything in the mine, men, mules, equipment, etc. He is giving eminent satisfaction in this connection and is regarded as a most faithful and efficient employe by the owners.

Mr. Jones was married on August 29, 1899, to Azuba Barron, daughter of Frank and Alice (Lewis) Barron, both natives of Virginia, from which state they came to Parke county in an early day and settled here. They had seven children, namely: Azuba, wife of the subject; Robert, Minnie, Rose, Elsie, Maud and William. The subject has no children.

---

### JAMES NEWTON ARTHUR.

The enterprise of James Newton Arthur, the efficient and well known young engineer in the mining region of Vermillion county, has been crowned by success as the result of rightly applied principles, which never fail in their ultimate effect when coupled with integrity, uprightness and a congenial disposition, as they have evidently been done in the present instance, judging from the high standing of Mr. Arthur among his fellow citizens whose undivided esteem he has justly won and retained among a wide acquaintance in Clinton township.

Mr. Arthur was born in Greene county, Indiana, March 5, 1881, and he is a son of Peter and Nancy Arthur, both born in Indiana, where they were reared, educated and married and made their home, for the most part, in

Greene county, but the later part of their lives was spent in Vigo and Sullivan counties. They became the parents of three children, namely: Noah E., Charles F., and James Newton, of this sketch, the latter being the youngest of the family.

The subject grew to manhood under the parental roof-tree, spending his boyhood days in Sullivan and Vigo counties and he received a practical education in the public schools.

Mr. Arthur was married on December 22, 1905, to Myrtie Pearl Clark, daughter of Nathan and Louisa Clark, a highly respected family of their neighborhood. To the subject and wife four children have been born, namely: Earl died when a little over a year and a half old; the second child died in infancy; Effie and Mamie are both at home.

Mr. Arthur has devoted his life, principally, to mining engineering, and has become an expert in mining machinery, understanding well every phase of modern machinery of mines. He is a close observer, has much natural ability and he has kept well read on his chosen subjects, thus being conversant with every department of the same. He has filled with success various positions about the mines and at present he is engineer of No. 3 Klondike mine, owned by J. K. Deering. He is responsible for all the machinery in this big mine, which has a capacity of two thousand tons of coal daily, his duties being very responsible and requiring close attention. He makes a daily inspection of all the machinery, and he is regarded by his employer as one of the most trustworthy and efficient men in this mine. In religious matters Mr. Arthur belongs to the Methodist church.

---

### JAMES GARFIELD DUGGER.

Although named for a President, James Garfield Dugger will doubtless never be the chief executive of the United States, or a leader in statesmanship in any way; but, nevertheless, he is filling and will continue to fill well his niche in the world's affairs and will therefore perform his allotted task just the same as if he had been destined by Fate to be a leader of men in the political arena, for all good work is commendable, no matter in what line of endeavor or by whom performed. So he succeeds in this world who does well and conscientiously what he finds to do.

Mr. Dugger, who is one of the best engineers in the mining section of Vermillion county, was born in Clinton township, this county, on April 15,

1881, and is the son of James A. and Margaret (Stover) Dugger. The maternal grandparents of the subject were among the early settlers of Vermillion county, and here James A. Dugger has spent his later life engaged in general farming and stock raising, in which he has been successful. He and his wife were both born in Tennessee, in which state they grew to maturity and were married and there they continued to reside until 1865, when they moved to Vermillion county, locating in Helt township. The mother of the subject was called to her eternal rest in 1886. The father is still living in Clinton.

Twelve children were born to James A. Dugger and wife, namely: William, Charles, Lem, Lillian, Samuel, Lewis, James Garfield (the subject), David, Florence, Clara, McKinley, and one child who died in infancy.

The subject grew to manhood in his native community and when of proper age assisted with the general work on the home farm during the summer months, and in the winter time attended the public schools. On July 30, 1904, he was united in marriage to Christina Morgan, daughter of A. E. and Hannah (Henderson) Morgan, both natives of Vermillion county, Indiana, where they grew up and were married. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Dugger, named as follows: James, Louise and Mabel.

Mr. Dugger has been a student of engineering for some time and has become an expert in his line. He is at present holding a very responsible position as engineer of Crown Hill mine No. 4, one of the best equipped and up-to-date mines in the Clinton district, operated by electricity, with all modern machinery. His duties as engineer consist in hoisting coal, taking care of all the machinery in the mine, engines, boilers, etc., having general supervision of the machinery end of this great mine. He has performed his work in a most able and acceptable manner to his employers. Mr. Dugger is a member of the Baptist church.

---

#### JOHN O. WALTER.

One of the most efficient and energetic mining engineers of Vermillion county, Indiana, is John O. Walter, a man who early in life began following the mines and made this special phase of mining his careful study so that he has become very proficient in his line and his services have been in great demand. He is at present holding a very important position with one of the Crown Hill mines, and is giving his employers eminent satisfaction.

Mr. Walter was born on January 16, 1882, two miles west of Clinton.

Indiana. He is a son of Charles F. and Mary (Foltz) Walter, the father a native of Indiana and the mother of Virginia. They are living in Clinton at this writing, and seven of their children are still living.

John O. Walter was reared in his native community and he received his education in the common schools, where he applied himself very closely to his text books and received a very practical knowledge of general things, laying the rudiments of an education which has since been broadened by home reading and by actual contact with the world.

On April 11, 1908, Mr. Walter was married to Maggie Scott, who was born December 8, 1888, east of Brazil, Indiana, and there she grew to womanhood and was educated in the common schools and her parents were well known in that community. Two children have been born to the subject and wife, namely: Anna May, born January 16, 1909, and William Wayne, born September 9, 1911.

Mr. Walter began life as an engineer, starting at hoisting when about eighteen years of age and he has since advanced steadily in his chosen field, and is at this writing engineer for Crown Hill Mine No. 6, Clinton township, which position he has held for the past two years, the manifold duties of which he has discharged most faithfully and acceptably to the owners, keeping everything in first class shape and looking after their interests as if they were his own. He has saved his money and owns his own neat home in West Clinton. Politically, he is a Progressive, and fraternally, he belongs to the Knights of Pythias, Lodge No. 217, at Clinton, and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Lodge No. 356, also at Clinton.

---

### JOHN WATTERS.

Throughout the mining districts of Vermillion county are to be found many who claim as their native land the bonny heaths of Scotland. All who are conversant with their work and habits of life will agree that there are no better or more trustworthy men following the mines here, for they are most willing workers, are quick of perception and can be depended upon at all times. They are known to be people who do well whatever they attempt and they who have chosen mining as their life work have taken all possible pains to learn it thoroughly and to keep well up-to-date all the while.

Among this number deserving special mention here is John Watters, who



holds the responsible position of mine boss of Crown Hill Mine No. 5, in Clinton township, one of the best and largest mines in the district. He was born in Scotland, December 30, 1857, and is a son of James and Jennet (Ferguson) Watters, natives of Scotland, in which country they grew up, were married and spent their earlier lives, and from there they came to America in 1879, locating at Clay City, Indiana, where the father followed the mines, and there his death occurred some time ago. The mother of the subject is still living, having now attained the ripe old age of seventy-five years. She makes her home with the subject and his brother James.

Three children were born to James Watters and wife, namely: John, subject of this sketch; James, Jr., who lives in Clinton township, Vermillion county; Mary, who married Ebenezer Dick, of Coalmont, Indiana.

John Watters came to America in 1878, a year before his father came. He landed in Quebec, Canada, but later came on to Braidwood, Illinois, where he remained some time, then came to Clay county, Indiana, and from there to Clinton, Vermillion county, about 1909, and here he has since remained. Early in life he began following the mines and this he has continued, being at this writing boss of Crown Hill Mine No. 5, in Clinton township, this county. It is two years old, is one hundred and eighty feet deep, with a capacity of thirteen hundred tons daily. It is equipped to handle two thousand tons daily, and one hundred and forty men are employed. It is one of the best and most valuable mines in Vermillion county. Mr. Watters is responsible for the entire working of this mine, below ground. He has everything under a superb system and the daily work is carried out without a hitch. He carefully inspects whatever pertains to the mine, taking air measurements once a week, as the law prescribes, and keeps everything in first class condition.

Fraternally, Mr. Watters is a member of the Free and Accepted Masons, of Clay City, Indiana, and of the Knights of Pythias. He has remained unmarried.

---

#### FRANK P. CRISTY.

Early in life Frank P. Cristy was taught a valuable lesson and that was to do well whatever he attempted and that has been, no doubt, the secret of his success in life, and that is the reason that he is today in charge of one of the best and most extensive mines in the Vermillion district, where he is giving the utmost satisfaction, for he has everything under a superb system.

Mr. Cristy was born in Tuscarawas county, Ohio, June 6, 1854, the son of John and Mary Ann (Black) Cristy. The father was born in the same county and state as was the subject and there he lived until 1873, when he came to Brazil, Indiana, and established the future home of the family, which consisted of six children, namely: Sarah Ann, Isaiah and William E., all live at Mineral City, Ohio; Jemima is deceased; Jeremiah is also deceased; Frank P., of this sketch; Clara was the youngest in order of birth.

John Cristy was married a second time, and one child was born of the last union, Etta. The death of John Cristy occurred at Brazil when sixty years of age.

Frank P. Cristy received his education in the common schools, and upon reaching manhood he was united in marriage to Emma Rosa Belle Williams, on April 7, 1875, daughter of Nathan and Mary (Ballard) Williams. To the subject and wife one child has been born, Pearl, who married M. B. Scott, of Clinton, Indiana.

Mr. Cristy has followed the mines all his life, and he is now mine boss of J. K. Deering Mine No. 2, which has a depth of one hundred and sixty-four feet and a capacity of eight hundred tons daily. Mr. Cristy opened this mine in August, 1908, and there has never been an accident of any kind in it. It is regarded as practically a new mine. Mr. Christy has managed the same in a manner that has reflected much credit upon his ability and to the entire satisfaction of all concerned, for he understands thoroughly every phase of the mining business, having kept well up to date in all that pertains to this line of endeavor, and he keeps everything under close observation, taking no chances and running no risks of any kind.

Mr. Cristy is a member of the Presbyterian church.

---

#### WILLIAM DEVONALD.

Although Wales is a small country and much of it is so rugged that it cannot be inhabited, yet she has produced a sturdy, splendid race of people, large numbers of whom, failing to find proper opportunities there, have come to the United States and have here become worthy and successful citizens, being law-abiding, thrifty and honest, so that we have always welcomed them and given them such advantages as were appreciated and made the most of by them. One of this band is William Devonald, well known in the mining sec-

tion of Vermillion county, a man who has benefited alike himself and us during his residence of nearly a quarter of a century in this locality.

Mr. Devonald was born in Wales, March 10, 1856, and is a son of Timothy and Dorothy (Davis) Devonald, both natives of Wales, in which country they grew up, were married and there established their permanent home. The father, who was a skilled veterinary surgeon, spent his entire life in that country, practicing his profession up to the time of his death, at the advanced age of eighty-four years, in January, 1910. The mother of the subject is still living in Wales, being now advanced in years.

William Devonald grew to manhood in Wales and received his schooling there. In 1887, when thirty-one years of age, he left his native heath and crossed the great Atlantic to America, landing at the city of Philadelphia. From there he came west to Brazil, Indiana, then went to Caseyville, that state, later going to Rosedale, from which town he came to Clinton, Vermillion county, in 1889. He followed the mines in various capacities until 1893, when he took up the shale business, which he followed with success until 1909, when he returned to the mines and has continued in this line of endeavor to the present time. He is at this writing mine boss of Oakhill Mine No. 1, which position he is filling to the utmost satisfaction of his employers. He is responsible for the entire working of the mine.

Mr. Devonald was married in Wales in 1886 to Given Jones, daughter of John and Cecelia Jones, both of whom are deceased. They spent their lives in Wales, of which they were natives. Mr. Jones was engaged in the butcher business. To the subject and wife four children have been born, namely: David Higgon and Dorothy, both at home, and two children who died in childhood.

---

#### FRED ALFRED GREGG.

The gentleman whose name introduces this review is a worthy descendant of two of the excellent old families of the middle West, and he seems to have inherited from these sterling ancestors many of the personal traits of character that win in the great battle of life which each must fight according to his environment and the way in which Fate is pleased to dictate. Fred Alfred Gregg, well known throughout the mining district of Vermillion county, has, while yet a young man, succeeded in making an admirable start. He was born in Vermillion county, Indiana, September 26, 1882, and is a son of John

E. and Miriam (Lewis) Gregg, the father a native of Kentucky and the mother of Ohio. John E. Gregg grew up in the Blue Grass state and there spent his earlier years, finally coming to Parke county, Indiana, where he established the permanent home of the family. He devoted his life to agricultural pursuits. He enlisted in 1863 in the Seventy-first Indiana Volunteer Infantry and while a member of the same was captured. After his release he re-enlisted in Company K, Forty-third Indiana Volunteer Infantry, in which he served over two years, or until the close of the war, being mustered out in June, 1865, at Indianapolis, Indiana. After his discharge from capture he rejoined his first regiment, but was discharged on account of sickness. It was upon his recovery that he went into another regiment.

Eight children were born to John E. Gregg and wife, namely: Minnie, Alice, William, Marvin, Fred A., of this sketch; Jessie, Fernie and Marcus are both deceased.

The death of John E. Gregg occurred on April 22, 1911, at the age of sixty-six years. His widow is still living near Dana, Indiana, being now sixty-seven years old.

Fred A. Gregg grew up on his father's farm and there worked when a boy. He received his education in the public schools of his community. On February 26, 1912, he was united in marriage to Essie Hays, daughter of Perry and Ida Hays.

Mr. Gregg is top boss of the J. K. Deering Mine, No. 3 Klondike, which has a depth of three hundred feet, and is equipped to handle two thousand tons of coal daily. The shaft was sunk in 1898. He has given eminent satisfaction in this responsible position, understanding well every phase of coal mining.

Fraternally, Mr. Gregg is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and politically he is a Progressive.

---

#### GEORGE W. STULTZ.

One of the most progressive agriculturists and stock men of Vermillion county is George W. Stultz, who has spent practically all of his life in his home community, believing that here existed better opportunities than could be found elsewhere, and he has ever had at heart the interests of his county which he has sought to aid in any way he could. Thus, while laboring to



advance his own interests, he has done much toward promulgating the civic, industrial and moral tone of the community. Among other things he has helped develop the coal industry here. His career has been one of hard work and integrity, consequently he is deserving of the respect in which he is held by everyone.

Mr. Stultz was born in Clinton township, Vermillion county, Indiana, October 29, 1841, and he is a son of Solomon and Zena Ann (Groves) Stultz. The father was born in Virginia, from which state he came to Vermillion county, Indiana, as early as 1830, when the country was practically a wilderness and settlers were few. He located the permanent home of the family in Clinton township. In that place and on that year, George Stultz, the paternal grandfather of the subject, also located. He too was born in Virginia, and he brought the father of the subject here when he was fifteen years of age. He had the following children: Moses is deceased; Solomon, father of the subject; Joseph and Lucinda are both deceased; Elizabeth lives in Edgar county, Illinois; Polly Ann, deceased; James and Melinda are both deceased. The father of the above named children devoted his life to farming, and he became well known to the early settlers of this county, and here he developed a good farm by hard work and persistent application, and on that place Solomon Stultz, mentioned above, grew up and he also devoted his life to farming with success.

George W. Stultz, of this sketch, grew up on the home place and there he assisted with the general work when a boy, and he received his education in the schools of his township, which was very limited; in fact, he did not attend school but about six months, having been compelled to go to work for a livelihood when but a boy. He went to Clinton one month and there learned more than during all the rest of his boyhood. However, he became an educated man, for he has always been a wide reader and a close observer. He began life for himself by working by the month at twelve dollars per month. On October 25, 1863, he was married to Sarah Clark, daughter of James and Serena (Bright) Clark, she being one of five children, namely: Joseph is deceased; Sarah, wife of Mr. Stultz; Cordella, who married John J. Martin; James, who lives in Clinton township, this county; Susan Ellen was the youngest. The father of the above named children came from Ohio in a very early day and purchased one hundred and sixty acres from a gentleman who had entered it from the government, and he followed farming during his life time. This farm is now owned by the subject of this sketch, he being the possessor of the original deed and the third owner from the

government. Eight children have been born to Mr. Stultz and wife, namely: Louis M. and Charles A. are deceased; the third died in infancy; Samuel C. married Tillie T. Nefh; Lawrence E. is deceased; the next child died in infancy; Lena Ellen is deceased; George R. married Pearl Teal and they live in the town of Clinton.

George W. Stultz has followed farming all his life and is still actively engaged; however, he now rents his place and devotes his attention mainly to the coal mining industry, in which he has been very successful, being the owner of one hundred and eighty acres of coal land, and there are two large mines on his farm, Crown Hill Nos. 1 and 3. He leased his coal at so much per ton and does not actively engage in mining it himself. However, he has helped develop the coal of this locality. He has been most successful in a business way and has laid by a handsome competency for his declining years. He was township trustee for four years, from 1882 to 1886. Fraternally, he is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church.

Immediately upon the commencement of the Civil war Mr. Stultz offered his services to the Federal government, enlisting in Company H, Sixteenth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, in April, 1861, and he served in the Army of the Cumberland, seeing much hard service, but he proved to be a faithful and gallant defender of the Stars and Stripes, no matter how arduous or dangerous the task assigned. He participated in the battles of Winchester and Harper's Ferry, and other hotly contested engagements. He was honorably discharged in Washington, D. C. He is a member of the P. R. Owen Post, Grand Army of the Republic, at Clinton, and takes much interest in the same.

---

### LEONIDAS DRAKE.

For a period of thirty years Leonidas Drake has labored with pronounced success among the people of Vermillion county and during that time he has won a host of friends here by his industry, honesty and public spirited acts. He is well known throughout this locality and is prominent in fraternal and social affairs.

Mr. Drake was born in Paulding county, Ohio, April 4, 1866, and he is a son of John and Corintha (Chapman) Drake, both natives of the state of New York, being early settlers in Paulding county, Ohio. Grandmother

Elmira (Ellis) Chapman was one of the first settlers in the last named locality, the family having been compelled to make their own roads in penetrating into Paulding county, the country at that time being a wilderness and the home of Indians and but few white people.

Leonidas Drake was the eldest son of a family of three, the other two being, Arminda, who married Edward McMahan, of Noblesville, Indiana. She was a school teacher before marriage, and had the honor of being the youngest person in Indiana ever receiving a teacher's license. Lecta Elmira married Ripley Craig, a coal miner of Clinton, Indiana. John Drake was a well known timber contractor, shipping timber all over the country. His death occurred in 1879. The mother of the subject died March 4, 1904, at the age of fifty-eight years.

Leonidas Drake received only a meager education in the common schools, and in 1889 he was married to Emma Craig, daughter of Richard and Drexia Craig, early settlers of Vermillion county. Two children were born to the subject and wife, Myrtle, who married Garrett Wooley, of Clinton, Indiana, and Daniel Drake. The subject was married a second time, his last wife being Stella Sweazey, daughter of Richard Sweazey and wife. The wedding occurred in 1897. Two children were also born of this union, Henry and Ethel, both at home.

Mr. Drake came to Vermillion county thirty years ago from Paulding county, Ohio, and he settled in the town of Clinton. He was a photographer and did excellent work, enjoying a good business in that line, which he followed here for six years, then took up paper hanging and coal mining and is still active as a paper hanger, having long been widely known in this work. He holds the record for the fastest paper hanger in Indiana, having placed one hundred and eleven rolls in seven and one-half hours. In connection with this line he has conducted a grocery store for a number of years and has built up a good patronage in both. He was active as an organizer of the Knights of Labor, and has held all the offices in the United Mine Workers up to the district offices. The Knights of Labor are the same as the United Mine Workers. He belongs to the Knights of Pythias at Clinton. Uniform Rank, Company 105, of Clinton.

Mr. Drake is deserving of a great deal of credit for what he has accomplished in a business way, he being the only man in Clinton who has developed a good business entirely without assistance, and he has ever been a man of scrupulous honesty and integrity, so that he has ever had the confidence and good will of the people.

## DANA F. WRIGHT.

Among the successful agriculturists of the younger generation of native sons of Vermillion county stands Dana F. Wright, owner of a valuable and carefully tilled farm in Clinton township where he is well known as a husbandman and stock raiser and as a public spirited citizen, a worthy representative of two of the old and highly honored families of this locality.

Mr. Wright was born in Clinton township, Vermillion county, Indiana, January 30, 1874, and he is a son of Lucius H. and Elizabeth (Porter) Wright. In early life the father removed to Iowa, where he remained for some time, then moved back to Indiana and devoted his life to agricultural pursuits, settling in Clinton township, Vermillion county, where he remained the balance of his life. His family consisted of six children, namely: Jeanette, who married Frank Bumgardner, of Clinton township; Johanna and Lelia both live in Vigo county, this state; Bertha is deceased; Dana F. of this review; William is deceased.

The father of the above named children was educated in the common schools of Indiana, though his early schooling was interrupted, for he was compelled to go to work when but a boy, he being one of a family of eight children, and he had to assist his father clear and tend the home farm and help make a living for the family. During the Civil war he was a soldier in the Union army, having enlisted in Company C, Eighteenth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, early in the war, and he saw much hard service in the Army of the Cumberland, proving himself a loyal and gallant soldier. The death of Lucius H. Wright occurred on December 13, 1901, at the age of sixty years. His widow is still living, making her home in Vigo county, with her daughter; she is now sixty-seven years of age.

Dana F. Wright grew to manhood on the home farm and there he assisted with the general work about the place when he became of proper age, and he received his education in the common schools, attending the Clinton high school for a short time. After leaving school he took up farming, in which he has since been successfully engaged. He is now the owner of a finely improved and very productive farm of eighty acres in Clinton township, Vermillion county, where he carries on general farming and stock raising and on which he has a very comfortable home and substantial outbuildings.

Mr. Wright was married on August 29, 1899, to Glennie Reeder, daughter of Joseph Wesley and Ann Elizabeth Reeder, a highly respected and well known family of this county. A complete history of the Reeder



family is contained in the sketch of Valzah Reeder, appearing elsewhere in this work. Two children have been born to the subject and wife, namely: Harold E., born October 4, 1901, and Herschel O., born March 9, 1905. They are both at home. Politically, Mr. Wright is a Republican, and in religious matters he belongs to the Methodist church.

---

#### BENNIE ERNEST PITMAN.

One of the capable and trustworthy engineers of the Vermillion county mining district is Bennie Ernest Pitman, who has forged to the front in his chosen calling as a result of rightly applied energy and principles. He has not only been a close student, but also a close observer of all that pertains to his vocation, with the result that he has kept up to date and full abreast of the times, always doing his work well and carefully, and never leaving for some one else that which he should do himself.

Mr. Pitman was born in Parke county, Indiana, September 7, 1879, and he is the son of Benjamin F. and Mary E. (Cox) Pitman, the father a native of Parke county. The paternal grandfather, Thomas Pitman, was born in Pennsylvania, from which state he came direct to Parke county, Indiana, locating in Adams township, where he followed farming the rest of his life. He was among the early settlers there and he developed his place from the woods.

Four children were born to Benjamin F. Pitman and wife, namely: Fred D., who lives in Montgomery county; Bennie E., of this review; Love Isa is deceased; Claude W. lives in Parke county.

Bennie E. Pitman grew to manhood in his native community and received his education in the Parke county schools. When but a boy he turned his attention to engineering, which he has followed all his life. He served his apprenticeship at Crawford & McCrimmon's, Brazil, Indiana. He is at present master mechanic at Crown Hill mines Nos. 1 and 3, Vermillion county, near Clinton, his duties being in full charge of all machinery in both mines. He is responsible for all working parts outside of the electrical department. He makes frequent inspections and must know the condition of all machinery at all times. He has discharged his duty in a manner that has reflected much credit upon himself and to the eminent satisfaction of his employers.

Mr. Pitman was married on January 1, 1898, to Hattie L. Cox, daughter of Albert and Mary E. (Rush) Cox, both natives of Vermillion county.

Indiana. Four children were born to Albert Cox and wife, namely: Pearlle, Charles, Hattie (Mrs. Pitman), and Edith, who is deceased. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Pitman, named as follows: Phila, Walter, Cyrus, Hortense and Ernest, all at home.

Fraternally, Mr. Pitman is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, and in religious matters he belongs to the Christian church.

---

### HENRY FERGUSON.

Inheriting many of the characteristics traits of his sturdy Scotch ancestry, Henry Ferguson, well known throughout the mining region of Vermillion county, has succeeded at his life work because he has worked hard, persistently and honestly and has always done well whatever he undertook, so that he has always had the confidence of his employers and his associates.

Mr. Ferguson was born in Scotland, January 2, 1864. He is a son of Dougal and Sarah (Campbell) Ferguson, both natives of Scotland, in which country they were reared and married and there spent the major parts of their lives, finally, in 1909, coming to the United States on a visit and while here the father's death occurred at Saginaw, Michigan, at the advanced age of eighty years. The mother passed away in Pennsylvania when seventy years old. They were an honest, hard-working and highly respected old couple who clung to their Scottish traditions and customs to the last. They became the parents of nine children, named as follows: John, Annie, Henry, of this sketch; Archie, James; Mary Jane and Sarah are both deceased; Dougald, and one who died in infancy.

Henry Ferguson grew to manhood in Scotland and received his educational training there. In 1885, when twenty-one years old, he emigrated to America, landing at New York City, and from there he came west to Ishpeming, Michigan, where he followed the mines, then went to Streator, Lasalle county, Illinois, where he remained awhile, then came on to Clinton, Indiana, and he has been in the mining business in Vermillion county ever since. He opened Crown Hill Mine No. 5 and made it a success, with a record of an average of one thousand, one hundred and sixty-five tons daily in a year, from the time the shaft was opened. This is indeed a splendid record and indicates that Mr. Ferguson understands thoroughly every phase of the mining business and that he also knows how to handle men and look after every detail of a

mine. He is at this writing engaged in opening Crown Hill Mine No. 6, of which he is mine boss, and in which capacity he is giving entire satisfaction to his employers, and is regarded by them as ever being entirely trustworthy and capable.

Mr. Ferguson was married in 1892 to Marie Waldron, daughter of John and Nancy (Dailby) Waldron, both natives of Ireland, in which country they grew up and were married, and from there emigrated to America some fifty years ago and settled at Ishpeming, Michigan, Mr. Waldron having worked for one company all that time. On account of fifty years of faithful service he draws a substantial pension. Two children have been born to Mr. Ferguson and wife, namely: Lawrence and Austin, both at home.

---

### JAMES SHIRKIE.

From the far-away bonny land of heath and bluebell, the land of Burns and Bruce, the land of the thistle and the rose, hails James Shirkie, well known throughout the mining district of Vermillion county. He is the possessor of many of the traits that win, such as his countrymen have always been noted for. Like the typical Scot, he is a man of thrift, persistence, courage and honesty and he has made a success of life since casting his lot with Americans and, while laboring for his advancement and that of his family, has at the same time so conducted himself as to gain and retain the friendship of those with whom he has come into contact.

Mr. Shirkie was born in Ayreshire, Scotland, October 31, 1875, and he is a son of Robert and Mary (Thompson) Shirkie, natives of Scotland, in which country they grew up, were married and established their permanent home, but, seeking greater opportunities for himself and family, he emigrated to the United States in 1884 when the subject was nine years of age. The family landed in New York City, but soon came on to Youngstown, Ohio, where the father followed mining. From there they went to Bradwood, Illinois, where he continued in the mining business, finally coming to Clinton, Indiana, and followed the mines here many years. His death occurred in 1910, at the age of seventy years.

Ten children were born to Robert Shirkie and wife, named as follows: Mary, who lives in Kankakee, Illinois; Lizzie died in Scotland; Agnes and Maggie are both deceased; Edward lives in Kankakee, Illinois; James, of this

review; Robert M. lives in Virginia; Maggie (named after the deceased sister); Jessie lives in Kankakee, Illinois; and George, of Clinton, Indiana.

James Shirkie grew to manhood in this country and received his education in the common schools. On May 30, 1900, he was united in marriage to Eva Maddox, daughter of Benjamin and Elizabeth Maddox. Mr. Shirkie has one child, David, by a previous marriage.

Early in life the subject took up mining, which he has continued to follow to the present time, being at present pit boss of the Oakhill Coal Company, at No. 5 mine in Clinton township, Vermillion county. He understands every phase of mining and is discharging his every duty in an able and acceptable manner. Under the state law he is responsible for everything in the mine from the top to the bottom. He is compelled to measure the air, intake and exhaust, and also to see that air circulates in the mine, and the pit boss is required to take a regular examination for mine boss. He looks after every detail of his work so that there is no hitch in the operations of this mine.

---

#### WILLIAM LUKE HAYES.

William Luke Hayes was born in Tippecanoe county, Indiana, March 29, 1841, the son of Alfred and Nancy (Thornell) Hayes, the father a native of Kentucky and the mother was born in Virginia. Alfred Hayes came to Tippecanoe county, this state, in a very early day, locating there, but later came to Parke county, where he was married. He moved over into Vermillion county in 1862, and here continued to make his home. He was a blacksmith by trade, which he followed until after the war, then took up farming, which he followed until his death. During the Civil war period he was a member of the old Home Guards at Rockville, and he assisted in the capture of Morgan, the Confederate general, on his raid into Indiana.

Twelve children were born to Alfred Hayes and wife, namely: The eldest died in infancy; Joshua L. is deceased; Louis, who was a private in Company F, Eleventh Indiana Cavalry, died at Louisville, Kentucky, during the Civil war; Cyrus Jefferson is deceased; Alfred W., who was a soldier in Company K, Forty-third Indiana Volunteer Infantry, is deceased; Marion M. was also a soldier in Company K, Forty-third Indiana Volunteer Infantry; William Luke, of this review; George M. lives in Brazil, Indiana; Charles E. deceased; Perry M. lives in New Goshen, Indiana; Hettie married



Justice Akermann, of Odon, Indiana, he having been a soldier in the Eighty-fifth Indiana Volunteer Infantry; Carey is deceased.

William L. Hayes grew to manhood on the home farm and there he assisted with the general work when of proper age, and in the winter time he attended the neighboring schools. He was not old enough to enlist for service in the Civil war, so he turned his attention to farming, which vocation he has followed to the present time, being still active, owning a productive and well improved farm in Clinton township which he has operated most successfully and now ranks with the best general farmers and stock raisers in this part of the country.

Mr. Hayes was married on October 24, 1878, to Josephine Spicer, daughter of Benjamin F. and Lucinda (Spangler) Spicer, the father a native of Virginia, in which state he grew up, married and reared his family, coming to Vigo county, Indiana, after the Civil war. He located at the town of New Goshen where he followed blacksmithing for some time, then turned his attention to merchandising which he followed until his death.

Five children were born to Benjamin F. Spicer and wife, four of whom are still living, namely: William H., who has remained in Virginia; Mary E., who married Logan Collier; Signora married George Landis; Josephine, wife of Mr. Hayes of this sketch; Louisa B., who married Mark Vancannon; Ada married James Stewart. Five children have been born to Mr. Hayes and wife, named as follows: Okie, who married J. W. Harrison; Ora married Harry Henry; Bertha married Frank Rhoner; William married Maggie Rosa; Oattie, who died when six years old.

Politically, Mr. Hayes is a Progressive, but he has never been especially active in public affairs and has held no office. Fraternally, he belongs to the Improved Order of Red Men at Clinton. He is a member of the United Brethren church.

---

#### HARMON K. MORGAN.

An enumeration of the enterprising men of Vermillion county who have won recognition and success for themselves and at the same time have conferred honor upon the community would be incomplete were there failure to make mention of the popular gentleman whose name initiates this review. Mr. Morgan holds worthy prestige in business circles, and has always been distinctly a man of affairs and wields a wide influence among those with

whom his lot has been cast, having won definite success and shown what a man with lofty principles, honesty of purpose and determination can accomplish while yet young in years. As a druggist he stands in the front rank of those who honor that calling in this section of the Hoosier commonwealth and because of his industry, integrity and courtesy he is a man for whom the future holds much of promise and reward.

Harmon K. Morgan was born in Vigo county, Indiana, near New Goshen, November 11, 1883. He is a son of Dr. John H. and Sadie M. (Wonner) Morgan. The father was a native of Virginia, from which state he came to Vigo county, Indiana, when a young man, accompanied by his parents, the family settling near New Goshen and there the subject's father grew to manhood and received his early education in the common schools. He took up the study of medicine in Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, finishing the course there, after which he practiced several years at New Goshen and in 1892 came to Clinton, Indiana, and practiced there with a large measure of success for a period of ten years, or until his death in 1902, at the age of fifty-six years. The mother is still living, making her home with her son, Harmon K., of this review, he being the youngest of three children; the other two were Carrie, the eldest, who died when twenty-three years of age, and Helen, who is living at home.

Harmon K. Morgan received his education in the common schools of Clinton, finishing high school in 1902, then took up pharmacy, taking the course at the Northwestern University at Chicago, receiving his degree in 1905. He returned to Clinton soon afterwards and purchased the Walker Drug Company, and has since maintained one of Clinton's leading and most popular drug stores at No. 235 South Main street, having enjoyed a large and constantly growing trade with the town and surrounding country, carrying a large and carefully selected stock of drugs and drug sundries, his store being modern in every respect and one that would be a credit to a city much larger than Clinton. Mr. Morgan has been very successful in a financial way and he is one of the directors of the First National Bank of Clinton.

A man of genial and obliging disposition, he is a good mixer and is popular with the people. He is public spirited and supports such measures and movements as have for their object the general upbuilding of his town and county in every way. He is a member of the school board of trustees, being at present secretary of the same, his term being for three years. Religiously, he belongs to the Presbyterian church, and in fraternal matters he belongs to the Free and Accepted Masons, the chapter and the commandery, all of Clin-

ton, the consistory at Indianapolis and the Ancient Arabic Order of Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, Zara Temple, Terre Haute. He has been active and prominent in Masonic affairs for some time, and, judging from his daily life, he tries to carry its sublime precepts into his relations with the world. Mr. Morgan has remained unmarried.

---

#### BROWN H. MORGAN.

The name of Brown H. Morgan, one of Clinton's substantial business men and leading merchants, needs no introduction to the people of Vermillion and Parke counties, for he has been one of our most active men of affairs for a period of thirty-six years, during which time he has played well his part as a citizen, supporting all measures that have been promoted for the general good of the locality and his personal reputation has been such as to warrant the esteem and confidence of those with whom he has come into contact.

Mr. Morgan was born in Virginia, September 30, 1861, and he is a son of William and Eliza (Flinn) Morgan, who spent their earlier years in the Old Dominion, coming from that state to New Goshen, Indiana, on May 10, 1874, when the subject was thirteen years old. After remaining there two years, they removed to Clinton, Vermillion county, where the parents spent the rest of their lives, the father dying in 1892 at the age of seventy-six years, while the mother's death occurred in 1903 at the advanced age of eighty-two years.

Eight children were born to William Morgan and wife, namely: Sallie, who married William H. Kale; Mollie, who married John R. Hangar, he being now deceased; John H. is deceased; Fannie married John M. Karr; Eutie married Harry F. Sheppard, he being now deceased; Wilbur P. D. is deceased; Maggie married Harry F. Sheppard, he being now deceased; Brown H., of this sketch, was the youngest child.

The father of the above named children was a wagon-maker by trade, which he followed until old age, spending the last ten or fifteen years of his life in retirement.

Brown H. Morgan received a good common school education, and early in life he took up merchandising, which he has continued to follow to the present time, or for a period of thirty-six years, during which he has met

with ever-increasing success until he is at present the proprietor of Clinton's largest store. He began his career on August 15, 1876, for A. L. Whitcomb, later buying out his employer. He enjoys a large trade with the city and county, his thousands of customers coming from a radius of many miles, and he always carries a large and carefully selected stock of general merchandise. He has been very successful in a financial way, having, by his industry, able management and honest dealings with the public, built up unaided a splendid and rapidly growing business. He is a man of progressive ideas, alert, far-seeing and yet plain and unassuming, a genial, companionable gentleman. He is a member of the board of directors of the First National Bank of Clinton. Politically, he is a Republican, but has never been an aspirant for public office. Fraternally, he belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows of Clinton, also the Free and Accepted Masons, the chapter and the commandery, and the Indianapolis Consistory, also the Murat Temple, Ancient Arabic Order of Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, at Indianapolis. In religious matters he is a Methodist. Mr. Morgan has remained unmarried.

---

#### WILLIS A. SATTERLEE.

It is always pleasant and profitable to contemplate the career of a successful, self-made man who has made a success of life and won the honor and respect of his fellow citizens. Such is the record, briefly stated, of the well known and progressive gentleman whose name forms the caption of this article, than whom a more genial, public-spirited and popular man it would be difficult to find in local professional circles, Mr. Satterlee having for a number of years been successfully engaged in the practice of his profession at Clinton. In every relation of life he has proven true to every trust reposed in him and no citizen of Vermillion county is worthier than he of the high esteem which he enjoys.

Willis A. Satterlee, the present able prosecuting attorney for this judicial circuit, was born February 9, 1878, near Scotland, Illinois. He is a son of Cyrus W. and Matilda (Griffith) Satterlee, the father a native of Michigan and the mother of Ohio. They came to Clinton, Indiana, when their son, Willis A., was two years old; here they became very comfortably established, and here the elder Satterlee spent the rest of his life, dying in 1909. The mother is still living. Cyrus W. Satterlee engaged in the timber business and



farming in his active life. His family consisted of the following children: George W. lives in Clinton; Willis A., of this sketch; Richard was next in order; and two died in infancy.

Willis A. Satterlee was educated in the common schools of Vermillion county and was graduated from the Clinton high school in 1900, then he took a course at the Vories Business College, Indianapolis. After leaving school, he began his active career by engaging in the real estate and insurance business, studying law the meanwhile, and, making rapid progress, was admitted to the bar December 20, 1909, at Newport, Vermillion county, and he has since been successfully engaged in the practice of his profession at Clinton, enjoying a large and constantly growing clientele.

Mr. Satterlee was married in 1904 to Jessie Foltz, daughter of David F. and Mary (Whitsell) Foltz, who came from Virginia to Vigo county, Indiana, locating near New Goshen. Four children have been born to the subject and wife, namely: Rowena E., William Albert, Florence B. and Jessie Virginia.

Mr. Satterlee has for some time been an influential factor in local public matters, being active in the ranks of the Democratic party, and he is at present incumbent of the office of prosecuting attorney for the forty-seventh judicial circuit, including Parke and Vermillion counties, having been elected in 1910 for a term of two years. In this important position he has been most successful, proving himself to be an able attorney and a safe and prudent public official. He was also probation officer for 1910 for Vermillion county, having been appointed in October, 1909, his term expiring in December, 1910. He also gave eminent satisfaction in this office. Fraternally, he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, and in religious matters a Methodist.

---

### J. M. JOHNS.

Few men in Parke county occupy as prominent a position in professional, industrial, public and social affairs as the well known and deservedly popular gentleman whose name introduces this article. His has been indeed a busy and a successful life and the record is eminently worthy of perusal by the student who would learn the intrinsic essence of individuality and its influence in molding opinion and in giving character and stability to a community. His many commendable personal traits of head and heart, coupled



J. M. JOHNS.



with his industry and genuine worth, make him a favorite in this locality and Mr. Johns merits the high esteem in which he is universally held.

J. M. Johns, well known attorney and business man of Rockville, Indiana, was born in Parke county, this state, February 25, 1869, the son of Jacob and Amanda (Rutter) Johns. The former was a native of Preble county, Ohio, and was a farmer all his life in Indiana, having come to this state when a child with his father, John Johns, who located in Clay county and laid out the city of Brazil. The Johns family is of Scotch stock on the paternal side. Besides agriculture, John Johns followed merchandising for some time. The family name was originally John, the "s" being added a few generations ago. Grandfather Johns came from Clay county to Portland Mills, Parke county, later moving to Mansfield, this county, and there his death occurred. Jacob Johns continued to live in that vicinity, having bought a farm in Raccoon township, where he spent the rest of his life, dying there on April 16, 1890, at the age of fifty-seven years. His family consisted of two children, J. M., of this review, and John, who lives on the home place, near Bridgeton, Parke county, which is one of the best improved, productive and desirable farms in the county.

J. M. Johns, of this review, was born in Raccoon township, on the home farm, and there he assisted with the general work when a boy. He received his primary schooling in the rural schools, there being an exceptionally good country school near his home, and in this he took, among other studies, Latin and algebra. Later he attended the Friends Academy at Bloomingdale. Then he entered a commercial school at Indianapolis, at C. C. Koerner's College, from which he was graduated. In 1889 he entered the law office of Puett & Hadley in Rockville, buying Judge Hadley's interest when the latter moved to Washington, D. C., and formed the partnership of Puett, Adams & Johns, which continued one year, when Mr. Johns withdrew and began practicing alone and he has thus continued for a period of twenty years. He has built up a large and lucrative clientele and stands in the front rank of his profession in Parke county and this section of the state. He has long been a familiar figure in the important cases of the local courts, and he is regarded as a painstaking, earnest and trustworthy advocate, and a man who has the ability to wield a great influence over a jury. He has remained a close student of all that pertains to his profession.

Mr. Johns was married on November 16, 1892, to Carrie Aydelotte, daughter of John and Cynthia (Breckenridge) Aydelotte. She is a descen-



dant of the noted Kentucky Breckenridge family, a branch of which located at Rockville, Indiana, and here became prominent. One child has been born to the subject and wife, Katharine.

Mr. Johns has been very successful in a financial way, and he is interested in the manufacture of vault molds, being president of the Egyptian Vault Mold Company, which has long carried on an extensive business over the country, having plants in many cities, and its great success has been due very largely to the able management, wise foresight and keen business discernment of the subject.

Mr. Johns is one of the ten men whose enterprise gave Rockville its splendid new opera house. He is a stockholder in the Electric Light and Starter Company of Indianapolis. Mr. Johns was chairman of the local committee that constructed the first concrete pavement and country road in western Indiana. This was accomplished by organizing the property owners in mutual agreement without process of law. This was on Howard avenue, Rockville. Mr. Johns gave freely of his time to push this to successful completion, and to him is due much credit for this splendid enterprise. Mr. Johns believes this will eventually be the model method of road construction of the future.

Mr. Johns has long been very active in Republican politics, and he was chairman of the fifth district committee that selected delegates to the national convention at Chicago in 1912. Fraternally, he belongs to the Knights of Pythias, the Modern Woodmen and the Improved Order of Red Men. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. He is generally conceded to be one of the most public spirited and progressive men of Rockville, a man who puts his shoulder to the wheel and does things. Personally, he is a genial, obliging genteel gentleman whom it is a pleasure to meet.

---

#### MARK W. LYDAY.

A great essayist long ago said, "When one has given the best that is in him to a work, he experiences satisfaction." While this statement may seem rather broad, yet a greater truth than this was never written. Whether one is successful or not in what one undertakes, if he realizes that nothing on his part has been left undone, he should have no regrets. This does not mean that the unsuccessful person feels just as good over defeat as the successful

over victory. When one does his best and is successful he has a double reason to be happy. To this class belongs Mark W. Lyday, one of the best known and most successful of the younger attorneys of Vermillion county, for he has done his best and has succeeded in the face of obstacles that would have discouraged many another. He is a fine example of the successful, energetic, self-made man, and, judging by his past accomplishments, the future holds much of good and promise for him.

Mr. Lyday was born in Clinton, Indiana, November 14, 1889, the scion of excellent pioneer ancestors, and the son of Daniel W., Sr., and Charity (Carroll) Lyday, both natives of Vermillion county, this state. Both the Lydays and the Carrolls were early settlers in this locality and each were prominent and highly respected. The paternal grandfather, Benjamin F. Lyday, came from Pennsylvania to Vermillion county among the first settlers.

The parents of the subject grew up in this locality, received their educations in the local schools and were married here, continuing to spend the rest of their lives here, he dying in 1905, at the age of fifty-six years, the widow surviving five years, passing away in 1910 at the age of sixty-one years. They became the parents of thirteen children, nine of whom are living at this writing, namely: Otis B., of Indianapolis; Benjamin F. lives in southern Illinois; Robert D., of Clinton, Indiana; Daniel W., Jr., has remained in his native state; George W. still resides in Clinton; Louis M., of Vigo county; Orpha, who married Thomas Kelshnier, of Clinton; Ray C. is in the United States army; and Mark W., of this review.

Mark W. Lyday grew to manhood in his native community and he received a good common school education there, being graduated from the Clinton high school, after which he entered the Indiana University Law School, later studying at the Cincinnati Law School, making an excellent record in each. He defrayed his expenses at school by working in the mines during the vacation periods. He made his expenses while attending the common and high schools with a shine box and by selling newspapers. He is deserving of a great deal of credit for the fortitude, grit and ambition he displayed. Such a character always rises above environment, no matter how discouraging. It is from such a source that most of our worthy and useful citizens have sprung. He has been very successful as an attorney since establishing himself for the practice of his profession in his home town, and on June 9, 1911, he was appointed deputy prosecuting attorney of Vermillion county, under Willis A. Satterlee, and is serving in that capacity in an able

and most satisfactory manner, his term of office expiring on December 31, 1912.

Mr. Lyday has long taken an abiding interest in public affairs and in the election of 1912 he was the Democratic nominee for joint-representative from Vigo and Vermillion counties to the state Legislature. From the first his nomination was regarded as a most fortunate one, meeting the approval of all concerned, regardless of party ties and he was elected at the November election, 1912. Mr. Lyday has remained unmarried.

---

### JASPER N. FRIST.

It is with a degree of satisfaction to the biographer when he adverts to the life of one who has made a success in any vocation requiring definiteness of purpose and determined action. Such a life, whether it be one of prosaic endeavor or radical accomplishment, abounds in valuable lesson and incentive to those who have become discouraged in the fight for recognition or to the youth whose future is undetermined. For a period of a quarter of a century Jasper N. Frist, well known undertaker of Clinton, Vermillion county, has directed his efforts toward the goal of success, and by patient continuance has won, being one of that city's worthy native sons, one who has been content to spend his life in his native community.

Mr. Frist was born in Clinton township, Indiana, in 1863, and is a son of J. R. and Mary J. (Pierce) Frist. The father came to Vermillion county from Delaware in an early day and here became well established through his industry as a farmer and auctioneer.

Jasper N. Frist grew to manhood in his native community and received his early education in the common schools. Upon reaching manhood he was united in marriage with Etta L. Lambert, daughter of George M. and Melissa (Shapard) Lambert, a well known pioneer family of Vermillion county.

Mr. Frist began life for himself by engaging in farm work and school teaching, giving eminent satisfaction. He worked for N. C. Anderson in the grocery business. He then embarked in the furniture and undertaking business, and this line of endeavor he has continued for the past twenty-five years, with ever-increasing success, enjoying a large trade with the surrounding country, always carrying a large stock of up-to-date furniture and as an undertaker he has always aimed at prompt and high grade service. For a

short time he attended an embalming school under Clarke in Indianapolis, and he has been a close student at home of all that pertains to his line of endeavor. He is a member of the state board of embalmers, and is regarded as one of the best in his chosen calling in western Indiana. He has taken a great interest in the above named board and has filled all the offices in the same up to and including that of president.

Mr. Frist has always taken an abiding interest in public affairs and for a period of nine years he served the city of Clinton as postmaster in a manner that reflected much credit upon himself and to the eminent satisfaction of the people and the department. He has also been a valued member of the city council and the advisory board.

To Mr. and Mrs. Frist have been born two children, Enid and Don, both at home.

---

### JAMES PAINE.

One of the best known business men and worthy native sons of the city of Clinton, Vermillion county, is James Paine, who has for a long lapse of years managed successfully a grocery store here and carried on other lines of business in a manner that shows him to be a man of unusual industrial ability. But having the sterling pioneer ancestry behind him of which he can boast, we do not wonder that he is a man who does things and who bears an unblemished reputation of rare force of character, for in the genealogical history of both the paternal and maternal lines there is much data signally germane to a compilation of this kind. He has lived to see and take a leading part in the wonderful growth of Clinton county and vicinity, and he is in every way deserving of the high esteem in which he is held by all.

Mr. Paine was born on January 22, 1845, at Blackman and Second streets, Clinton, Indiana, and here he lived till he was nine years old, then removed to a farm a few miles from Clinton where he lived till he was twenty-three. He was educated in the common schools, his first teacher being Anna Hathaway, who taught in old Temperance hall. He is a son of John and Charlotte (Brite) Paine. The Brite family came here from Virginia in 1832, they and the Harrison family making the long overland trip, and they settled on Brulett's creek, about five miles west of Clinton. The father of the subject came in 1820 from the state of New York, locating in Clinton when it was a small frontier village in the midst of practically a wilderness, and here



entered the mercantile business, later operating a hotel, which he continued until his death in 1852. He was a prominent man here in the early days of the town's development, and he held the office of justice of the peace for a number of years, being incumbent of the same at the time of his death. During the thirty-two years of his residence here he became one of the most influential and best known men in this section of the state. His family consisted of seven children, only one of whom, James, of this review, is now living.

James Paine was married in 1866 to Narcissus Wright, daughter of John and ——— (Nichol) Wright. Mr. Wright came from Cayuga county, New York, and settled near the Bunsen mine, in an early day.

James Paine began life for himself as a farmer, following that line of endeavor in his native county until 1870, when he removed to Kansas, where he continued general farming for a period of fourteen years, meeting with desirable success as he had previously done. He again went to Kansas in 1898, spending eight years, and then, returning to Indiana, he turned his attention to the grocery business in Clinton and this he has continued to the present time with ever-growing success, having long enjoyed a large trade with the town and surrounding country, always carrying a large and carefully bought stock of staple and fancy groceries at all seasons.

To James Paine and wife were born five children, named as follows: Henry, John R. and Frank all live in Clinton; Fred, who died when fourteen years old; Grace and Howard are at home.

---

#### THOMAS L. McDONALD.

A list of Vermillion county's energetic and progressive young men of affairs would be incomplete were there failure to make mention of Thomas L. McDonald, successful and well known insurance man of Clinton. He has ever maintained a high standard of ethics in his relations with his fellow men, whether business or social, and since coming to this locality he has won and retained without effort a host of staunch friends.

Mr. McDonald was born at Coalfield, Monroe county, Iowa, January 26, 1880, and is a son of James and Catherine (Maloney) McDonald, the father a native of Ireland. The latter was reared and married in England, in the county of Durham, and in early life emigrated to New York City, but soon afterwards came on west to Youngstown, Ohio, where he built a

house, which at that time was two miles out of town, but the same building is now well down town, there being modern improvements all around it. The elder McDonald was a miner. From Youngstown he removed to the state of Iowa, locating in Mahaska county, where he remained for a period of twenty-five years, then moved to Des Moines, where he still resides, now living retired. He was formerly in business at Pekay, Iowa, for a period of ten or twelve years. His family consisted of twelve children, namely: John lives in the state of Washington; Cecelia is deceased; Margaret lives in Des Moines; William, Patrick and Dermott are all deceased; James, who lives at Hiteman, Iowa; Joseph lives in Clinton, Indiana; Thomas L., subject of this sketch; Edward was next in order; Anthony is deceased; and Anthony (the second), named after his deceased brother, is living at West Terre Haute, Indiana. The father of the above named children is a Democrat. The mother was called to her eternal rest on October 26, 1903, at the age of sixty-five years.

Thomas L. McDonald grew to manhood in Iowa and received his education in the common schools there, but at the age of thirteen years he quit school to work in the mines, which line of endeavor he followed for a period of nine years, then took up the insurance business, which he has followed to the present time and in which he has been very successful, and is doing an extensive business in Vermillion and adjoining counties.

Mr. McDonald was married on October 3, 1911, to Claire A. Didier, daughter of Claude and Eugina (Goffiney) Didier. The Goffineys are of French descent and came to this country from Belgium. Mr. Goffiney was a native of France and there he spent most of his life, dying in Paris at the age of twenty-three years, in 1873. He was a soldier in the French army and fought in the Franco-Prussian war in 1871. Mr. Didier left his native land and emigrated to Nova Scotia, where he remained a short time, then came west in Canada and later to Pennsylvania and from there to Vermillion county, Indiana, locating later at Coal Creek, Fountain county. Then he went to Kentucky, where he married, after which he returned to Fountain county where he remained until three or four years ago, when he moved to Clinton to live retired. He was a mason in France, but followed mining in America. Eight children were born to Claude Didier and wife, namely: Mary lives in Clinton, as do all the rest of the children; Matilda and Louis were twins; Claire A., wife of Mr. McDonald; Amy, James and Josephine. The death of the father of the above named children occurred on March 21, 1910, at the age of sixty years. The mother also died in 1910, passing

away on June 20th, at the age of fifty-four years. One child has been born to Mr. and Mrs. McDonald, Mary Louise.

Mr. McDonald has taken a deep interest in the affairs of his county since locating in Clinton, and he was elected city clerk and took office on January 1, 1910, his term holding until 1914. He is discharging the duties of this position in a manner that is meeting the hearty approval of all concerned. He is a member of the Local Lodge No. 887, Fraternal Order of Eagles, and is secretary of this lodge, and he is outside guard of the state lodge. He is also a member of the Knights of Columbus, Lodge No. 541, at Terre Haute, Indiana. He is a sociable, friendly and obliging young man who is popular with the people wherever he is known.

---

#### JOHN R. PAINE.

By a life of persistent and well applied industry, led along the most honorable lines, the gentleman whose name appears above has justly earned the right to be represented in a work of the character of the one at hand, along with the other men of Vermillion and Parke counties who have made their influence felt in their respective communities and have achieved success in their chosen fields of endeavor.

John R. Paine, well known hardware merchant at Clinton, Indiana, was born in the city in which he still resides on October 15, 1869, and here he has been contented to spend his life. He is a son of James and Narcissus (Wright) Paine, the father also born in Clinton, this county, his birth having occurred in 1845, he being the son of John and Charlotte (Brite) Paine. The Brite family came here from Virginia in 1832. The father of the subject came from the state of New York in an early day and went into the hotel business in Clinton, and there spent the rest of his life, being well known here in pioneer times, having settled here as early as 1820. He was prominent in public affairs and was justice of the peace for many years. Of his family of seven children, James, father of the subject of this sketch, is the only one living. James Paine devoted his life to farming and in 1870 went to Kansas and there remained some time, then returned to Indiana, entering the grocery business in Clinton, in which he is still active. His family consists of five children, namely: Henry, John R., Fred, Frank, Grace and Howard, all living but Fred.

John R. Paine grew to manhood in Clinton and received a good common school education. Upon reaching manhood he married Ella Scott, daughter of Washington and Anne E. (Bright) Scott, the father a native of Washington county, Indiana, where his father was an early settler. The union of the subject and wife has been without issue.

Mr. Paine has been engaged in the hardware business in Clinton for some time and he has built up a large patronage with the town and surrounding country, always carrying a large and up-to-date stock of general hardware and farming implements.

Fraternally, he belongs to the Free and Accepted Masons and the Knights of Pythias, both at Clinton. He was elected a member of the city council in 1909, his term expiring in 1913. In this position he is doing much for the permanent good of the city.

---

### JAMES P. TUTWILER.

Possessing many of the traits that are typical of the people of the Old Dominion, it is no wonder that James P. Tutwiler, one of the best known merchants of Clinton, Vermillion county, has won a host of friends since taking up his residence here, for he has shown himself to be a man of industry, excellent public spirit, of lofty ideals and unswerving honesty and gallantry and he is therefore eligible from every viewpoint to be mentioned in a volume of this nature along with other leading citizens of this section of the great Hoosier commonwealth.

Mr. Tutwiler was born in Rockingham county, Virginia, July 6, 1848, and is a son of Leonard and Delila (Royer) Tutwiler, both natives of Virginia, in which state they grew to maturity, were educated and married and there they spent their entire lives engaged in farming, both being now deceased. They became the parents of ten children, named as follows: John P., Richard A. and Julia are all deceased; Jacob is living; Addison, Samuel H. and Robert are all deceased; Joseph L. lives in Illinois; Delila is deceased; James P., of this sketch, is the youngest of the family.

James P. Tutwiler grew to manhood in his native state and there received his educational training. He came to Indiana in 1874, locating at Libertyville, Vigo county, where he remained twenty years, during which time he was engaged in the mercantile business and was also postmaster



there. He enjoyed a large trade with the surrounding country and his long retention as postmaster is criterion of his eminent satisfaction as a public servant. In 1895 he came to Clinton, Vermillion county, and at once entered mercantile pursuits, which he has continued with ever-growing success until the present time, building up a lucrative and most satisfactory business during the eighteen years since his advent here. He carries a large and carefully selected stock of goods at all seasons and his thousands of customers find his prices right and always kind and courteous treatment.

Mr. Tutwiler was married on May 10, 1875, to Alice E. Higgans, daughter of William D. and Martha F. (Rush) Higgans, both natives of Virginia, from which state they finally came to Ohio and established the future home of the family, and there Mr. Higgans died, after which event the mother of Mrs. Tutwiler came to Indiana and made her home with the subject until her death. Five children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Higgans, namely: Amily Ann is deceased; Joseph F., who lives in Columbus, Ohio; Mary E. is deceased; Alice E., wife of Mr. Tutwiler; Florence is deceased.

Six children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Tutwiler, namely: Daisy Edna died when six months old; Bertram Fenton, Daniel Burr and James Floyd are all deceased; Emery Clifton, who married Nellie Webster; Theo Essa, who married Chance Shorter.

Mr. Tutwiler is a member of the city council of Clifton, having been elected in 1909, his term expiring in 1913. He is proving a very capable defender of the city's rights in this capacity and is doing much for the permanent good of the place. He attends the Christian church at Clinton and is a liberal supporter of the same.

---

#### WILLIAM PERRY SEYBOLD.

One of the prosperous farmers of Parke county, Adams township, Indiana, is William Perry Seybold, who was born and raised in that part of the country and has all of its interests near at heart. When a man has lived his life in a beautiful farming district, and given of his energy and attention to make the land more productive, every inch of the soil becomes dear to him and, though he may not realize it, it is so much a part of him and has such a hold on him that it is doubtful if he would be happy elsewhere. Mr. Seybold's interests are so closely identified with those of his

community that the history of his county would be incomplete without something of his life.

William Perry Seybold was born in Adams township, Parke county, Indiana, September 22, 1869. His father was Samuel Seybold, a native of Indiana and also a farmer in Parke county. His mother was Amanda Overpeck, who also was born and raised in this state. They had three children: Minerva married Charles Brubeck; George is dead, and William Perry is in Parke county. William Seybold was educated in the common schools in Parke county, and worked on the farm during his vacations. He learned a great deal about farming, and as soon as he finished school he took up farming on his own account, in Adams township.

On October 30, 1895, Mr. Seybold married Mary Beard, the daughter of John and Myra Beard. They were early settlers in this county, coming to Indiana when it was only sparsely settled, and facing the dangers of an unknown and undeveloped land. They came here from Virginia, and their names are prominent among those who did much to build up that part of the state. William and Mary Seybold have one child, John Max, who is at home. They have been very successful on their farm, and own some of the most highly cultivated acres in Parke county. Mr. Seybold is one of the most prominent citizens in his community and has always taken an active interest in all public affairs. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, at Rockville, Indiana, and of the encampment. Mr. Seybold is a Democrat by political conviction. He and his family are members of the Baptist church, and are prominent in the social life, as well as the various other interests of their community.

---

#### MONROE G. HOSFORD.

A member of that sterling type of pioneer citizens which has furnished the bone and sinew of the country and added to the stability of our government and its institutions is Monroe G. Hosford, well known mill and elevator man of Cayuga and one of Vermillion county's most representative native sons. Like his father before him, he is a man of many sterling characteristics of head and heart and among his contemporaries it would be hard to find a record as replete with toilsome duty faithfully and uncomplainingly performed in all the walks of life, while his career in the humble sphere of private citizen-

ship has been such as to recommend him to the favorable consideration of the people of his locality.

Mr. Hosford was born at the town of Eugene, Vermillion county, Indiana, February 4, 1845. He is a son of Philo and Evaline (Wigley) Hosford, the father a native of Ontario county, New York, from which state he came with his parents to Vermillion county, Indiana, in 1832. Ambrose Hosford, the first of the family, came from New England, locating at Lawrenceburg. He devoted his life to farming. His family consisted of four children, namely: Philo and Milo, twins; Pamela and Leman. Ambrose Hosford died at Lawrenceburg, and the grandmother of the subject brought the family to Eugene. Philo Hosford, father of the subject of this sketch, was reared and educated in the East, and after coming to Eugene, Indiana, he followed the carpenter's trade. His family consisted of the following children: Charles Monroe (our subject), Naomi, Eliza, Pamela, Samuel and Richard.

Philo Hosford was born in 1811, and died at Eugene, Indiana, in 1895. Politically, he was a Republican. His wife was born in 1816, and her death occurred in 1883. She was a member of the Presbyterian church.

Monroe Hosford grew to manhood at Eugene and there received his education in the common schools. From 1863 to 1876 he was clerk in Grondyke's store, giving most satisfactory service and learning in the meantime the ins and outs of the mercantile business, and after he left Mr. Grondyke's employ he engaged in general merchandising for himself in his native town. He next engaged in the milling business and was burned out in 1883. The following year he built the mill at the village of Cayuga, this county, and has since followed milling here with uninterrupted success, enjoying a large and ever-growing business with the surrounding country, the products of his mill finding very ready market owing to their superior quality. He has a large grain elevator in connection with his mill and he devotes all his attention to these enterprises.

Mr. Hosford was married on October 23, 1873, to Sarah C. Simpson, and to them three children have been born: Charles, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this work; Daisy, and Lenore, who married Herbert S. Johnston, of the Cayuga Milling Company.

Politically, Mr. Hosford is a Republican and in 1880 he was elected trustee of Eugene township and served two years. In 1898 he was elected treasurer of Vermillion county, which position he held until 1903, serving two terms with much credit and satisfaction to all concerned. Fraternally, he belongs to the Masonic order and the Modern Woodmen of America.

## L. B. HUMPHRIES.

To his own efforts is the success of L. B. Humphries, well known and highly respected citizen of Rockville, Parke county, attributable, he being a fine example of the successful self-made man of today, having started out upon his business career practically without capital or aid from any one, but, being ambitious and industrious, he forged ahead and has become one of the substantial men of affairs in the locality of which this volume treats. Besides having accumulated a competency in the pump and wind-mill business, which he followed for a score of years, he is the owner of a good farm near Rockville. This, too, is the visible evidence of his prosperity and industry, for when it came into his possession it was only partly improved and not nearly so productive as it is at this writing. Such a man deserves the high regard in which he is held by his neighbors.

Mr. Humphries was born in the Shenandoah valley, Rockbridge county, Virginia, October 6, 1853, and he is the son of Washington and Dicie (Wright) Humphries. The father also was a native of Virginia, where he grew up, was educated and married and there spent his life, dying when the subject was five years old. Five years later, when the son was ten years of age, the mother also passed away.

L. B. Humphries remained in Virginia until he was eighteen years old, being reared partly by his uncle and partly by his brothers. He received a good common school education in his native state, and before leaving there he worked at the molder's trade in a foundry. Coming west, he located in Illinois, remaining there until 1870, when he came to Rockville, Indiana, where he has since resided. His first two years here were spent as a farm laborer and after that he engaged in the pump and windmill business for a period of twenty years and in which he was very successful, his operations covering a large territory. He then worked for some time at coal prospecting with more less gratifying results.

Having long manifested an abiding interest in public affairs, Mr. Humphries was elected trustee of Adams township, Parke county, in the fall of 1908 for a period of four years, and the Legislature extended the time two years. He discharged the duties of this office in a highly acceptable manner, enjoying the confidence and good will of all concerned.

Mr. Humphries was married in 1872 to Rachael Lambert, who was born and reared in Parke county, Indiana, and is the daughter of James and



Sarah (Leonard) Lambert, a highly respected old family of this county. To the subject and wife one child has been born, who died in infancy.

Politically Mr. Humphries is a loyal Democrat and takes an active part in political work, now serving his third term as chairman of the Parke county central committee. Fraternally, he is a member of the Knights of Pythias. He still does some work in the well business, and he looks after his farm of eighty-three acres, which lies three miles from Rockville. He is a quiet, honest, unassuming gentleman who has won a host of friends since casting his lot with the people of Parke county.

---

### CLARENCE STONE.

The office of biography is not to give voice to a man's modest estimate of himself and his accomplishments, but rather to leave upon the record the verdict establishing his character by the consensus of opinion on the part of his neighbors and fellow citizens. The life of Clarence Stone, an energetic young farmer of Parke county, has been such as to elicit just praise from those who know him best, owing to the fact he has always been loyal to the trusts reposed upon him and has been upright in his dealings with his fellow-men, at the same time lending his support to the advancement of any cause looking to the welfare of the community at large.

Mr. Stone was born on January 17, 1875, on the Fred Griffin farm in Parke county, Indiana, and is the son of Caius M. and Letia (Gott) Stone. The father was born in Kentucky, near the city of Louisville, and there he was reared and educated. When about twenty-one years old he came to Montgomery county, Indiana, later removing to Parke county, where he took up land from the government and here began life in pioneer style, and, working hard, developed a good farm and home from the wilderness. He started in life by working out by the week, in that way saving enough to buy land, to which he later added until he had a large farm, one of the choicest, in fact, in his section of Parke county. His family consisted of seven children, namely: Julia, Jennie, William, Irvin, Cora, Minnie and Clarence, the subject, who is the youngest child.

Clarence Stone grew to manhood in his home community, and when a boy assisted his father with the work on the home place, and he received his education in the common schools. He has remained on the home place, his father dying in August, 1906, and he manages the farm for his mother.

The place consists of one hundred and sixty-five acres of well improved and productive land, on the Lafayette road about two miles from Clinton.

Mr. Stone was married on September 11, 1894, to Charlotte Ballew, the daughter of Charles and Abuilda (Fenton) Ballew. To Mr. and Mrs. Stone five children were born, namely: Charles, Evelyn, Grace, Henry and Charlotte. The wife and mother was called to her eternal rest on August 9, 1912. She belonged to the Methodist church. Henry Clarence Stone died January 2, 1913.

William Stone, brother of the subject, married Ella Holman, and they became the parents of three children, namely: Otha, Blanche and Robert. William Stone is now deceased.

Clarence Stone is a member of the Knights of Pythias. He is a Democrat in politics, but has been no aspirant for public honors.

---

#### THOMAS H. NELSON.

That the career of such a man as Thomas H. Nelson, a native son of Parke county and for many years a well known citizen here, now a prominent lumberman of Indianapolis, besides being treasured in the hearts of relatives and friends, should have its public record also, is peculiarly proper because a knowledge of men whose substantial reputation rests upon their attainments and character must exert a wholesome influence upon the rising generation. While presenting to future generations the chronicle of such a life, it is with a hope of instilling into the minds of those who come after the important lesson that honor and station are pure rewards of honorable and persistent individual exertion.

Mr. Nelson was born one mile west of Bloomingdale, Parke county, Indiana, May 5, 1868, and is a son of Thomas and Elizabeth (Chapman) Nelson. The father was born on September 18, 1827, and his death occurred on October 17, 1894. The mother was born March 29, 1829, and is still living, making her home at Bloomingdale, being now advanced in years. The father of the subject was a native of Yorkshire, England, and there spent his earlier years, coming to the United States in 1841 on a small sailing vessel, which landed in New York City. From there he came by water to Cincinnati, Ohio. Coming overland to Parke county, Indiana, he located on a farm near Bloomingdale. The country round about was wild, for the most part, and he cleared his land himself, beginning life here in typical

pioneer fashion, and by hard work and close application he developed a good farm and established a comfortable home. He devoted his life successfully to general farming and stock raising. He was one of the first men in Indiana to raise the short horn cattle. He was well educated, as was also his wife, who was a native of Parke county and whom he met and married here. He was quite a politician, an ardent Republican, and was commissioner of Parke county for nine successive years, and also served some time on the Indiana state board of agriculture. He never missed a state fair from the time the first one was held until his death. He was a man whose opinions were sought by his neighbors on many things, and his advice was always followed with gratifying results. He was a well read man, who kept abreast of the time, not only in county and state affairs, but also nationally. He was for many years one of the best known and most influential men in Parke county. His family consisted of eight children, all sons, namely: George is deceased; Henry, who married Jennie Winston; William, who married Cora Kirkpatrick; Charles J., who married Elma Morrison; Horace, who first married Anna Meldrum, now deceased, but since he has married again to Bula Clark; Edward, who was not married, died in August, 1884; James, who married Maude Musgrave, became city engineer of Indianapolis, and before that was county surveyor of Marion county, died in the capital city in 1908; Thomas H., of this review, was the youngest in order of birth.

Thomas H. Nelson grew to manhood on the home farm and there he assisted with the general work about the place during the crop seasons when he became of proper age. He received his primary education in the common schools and the high school, then entered a business college at Poughkeepsie, New York, in 1891, from which he received the Master of Arts degree. When twenty-one years of age he came to Indianapolis and secured employment with the Citizens Gas Company, with which he remained, giving the utmost satisfaction, until the panic of 1893. In that year he went to Mt. Olive, Mississippi, and took a position with the Mt. Olive Lumber Company, and while there gained a comprehensive knowledge of the lumber and timber business. He remained in this field of endeavor until about thirteen years ago, when he returned to Parke county and took a position as deputy county auditor under Stephen Pike; and after leaving him he came back to Indianapolis and took a position with the Greer-Wilkinson Lumber Company as traveling auditor, the duties of which responsible post he filled with his usual satisfaction. Some time ago he entered the wholesale lumber business which has been operated under the subject's name and which has been very successful

and is rapidly growing. Mr. Nelson has mastered every phase of the lumber business and has kept well abreast of the times in this field of endeavor.

On November 30, 1910, Mr. Nelson was united in marriage to Myrtle Mason, a lady of many estimable attributes, who was born on July 8, 1887, in Gibson county, Indiana, where she grew to womanhood and received a good common and high school education, later entering Western College, Oxford, Ohio, from which she graduated. She is a daughter of Thomas J. Mason, who was for eight years clerk of Gibson county and an influential citizen there.

Mr. Nelson is secretary-treasurer of the National Association Lumber, Sash and Door Salesmen, as well as secretary-treasurer of the Central Association Lumber, Sash and Door Salesmen.

Fraternally, Mr. Nelson belongs to the Masonic order, Indianapolis Lodge No. 6, Royal Arch Masons. He is a Republican, and is a member of the Marion Club, of Indianapolis, which is one of the largest Republican clubs in the Middle West. He is also a member of the Commercial Club, of Indianapolis, and stands high in both.

---

#### CHARLES D. RENICK.

The biographies of successful men are instructive as guides and incentives to those whose careers are yet to be achieved. The examples they furnish of patient purpose and consecutive endeavor strongly illustrate what is in the power of each to accomplish, if he is willing to press forward in the face of all opposition, refusing to be downed by untoward circumstances, thus making stepping-stones of what some would find to be insurmountable stumbling blocks. The gentleman whose life history herewith is, we hope, accurately and succinctly set forth, is a conspicuous example of one who has lived to good purpose and achieved a definite degree of success in the special sphere to which his talents and energies have been devoted. Mr. Renick deserves to rank as one of the worthiest native sons of Parke county, Indiana, where he continued to reside for many years, becoming well known as a teacher in the local schools and as clerk of the circuit court at a later date. Seeking a broader field for the exercise of his talents, he took up his residence in Indianapolis a number of years ago where his rise in business circles was rapid, and he is now the able and popular president of the Indiana Na-



tional Life Insurance Company, and ranks among the influential men of affairs of the Hoosier capital.

Charles D. Renick was born on October 28, 1871, near Lodi, Parke county, Indiana. He is a son of James P. and Margaret (Dow) Renick, a prominent old pioneer family, whose influence in the early days was most potent in the progress of this locality in a general way. The father was born on March 26, 1835, the son of George Renick and wife; he devoted his life successfully to general agricultural pursuits, and as a Republican took an active interest in public affairs. He spent his life in Parke county, where his parents settled in a very early day and became well known among the pioneers. They established a good home in the wilderness through hard, persistent toil. The death of James P. Renick occurred on October 26, 1904. The mother of the subject was born in Ohio, November 3, 1839, and her death occurred on November 14, 1903. These parents, like the grandparents, were noted for their industry, honesty and hospitality.

To James P. Renick and wife eleven children were born, seven of whom are still living, namely: Ben, William, Charles D. (of this sketch), Lula, Ora, Arthur C. and Samuel C.

Charles D. Renick grew to manhood on the home farm near the village of Lodi, and there he assisted with the general work about the place during crop seasons when he became of proper age, and in the winter time he attended the neighboring schools, later the high school, then spent three years in the Indiana State Normal School at Terre Haute. After he became twenty-one years of age he began teaching in Parke county and followed this for a period of seven years with much success, his services being in great demand. He took an interest in public affairs and was elected clerk of the circuit court in 1900, and he served four years in that capacity in a manner that reflects much credit upon himself and to the eminent satisfaction of all concerned.

After his term of office had expired, Mr. Renick came to Indianapolis and entered a business career, securing a position with the Indiana National Life Insurance Company, with which he has continued to the present time. For a number of years he was secretary, and some time ago was elected president, the important duties of which responsible post he is discharging with a fidelity and discernment that stamps him as fully abreast of the times in this great field of endeavor and to the eminent satisfaction of the stockholders, patrons and all concerned, holding a position in the front rank in the insurance world.

Fraternally, Mr. Renick has attained the thirty-second degree in Masonry, belonging to the Scottish Rite, and the Ancient Arabic Order of Nobles

of the Mystic Shrine. He also belongs to the Knights of Pythias and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. Politically, he is a Republican and is a member of the Marion Club, one of the largest and most influential Republican clubs in the Middle West. He is also a member of the Highland Golf Club. Personally, he is a genteel gentleman upon all occasions, genial, obliging and a pleasant man to meet, being, withal, plain and unassuming.

---

### CHARLES F. BALL.

Another of the enterprising and successful native sons of Parke county is Charles F. Ball, who is engaged in merchandising in Union township. He has always been known as a man of energy and good habits and interested in the welfare of his native county, in which the Balls have been well known since the early days and their united labors have counted for much in the general upbuilding of the county.

Mr. Ball was born on September 26, 1865, in Parke county, Indiana. He is a son of Abel and Lyda (Bullington) Ball, both also natives of Parke county, where they grew to maturity, were educated in the early schools of their respective communities and here were married, and here they continued to make their home, becoming successful farmers. The paternal grandfather of the subject was James Ball, who came from Pennsylvania to Parke county and entered land from the government, beginning life as a typical pioneer, and here established the permanent home of the family. The father of the subject was an extensive stock raiser, handling short horn cattle, dealing extensively in live stock, growing large numbers on his farm and shipping them to market. He is now deceased, having passed away on April 16, 1887, at the age of fifty-four years eight months thirteen days. The mother of the subject is still living, making her home near her son, Charles F., of this sketch, on the old homestead. To these parents eight children were born, five of whom are still living.

Charles F. Ball grew to manhood on the home farm and there worked when a boy, receiving his education in the common schools. On March 13, 1890, he married Clara Stout, who was born in 1870 in Union township, Parke county, the daughter of J. O. and Sarah (Wright) Stout. To the subject and wife one child has been born, Grace, who married John H. Rein, a farmer, who lives just north of the subject.

Charles F. Ball began life as a farmer, spending twelve or fifteen years

in that line of endeavor with very satisfactory results. He then associated himself with his father-in-law in the general merchandising business in the village of Hollandsburg, Union township, this county, and they are still successfully engaged in that line of work, enjoying a large trade with the surrounding country. Mr. Ball owns a comfortable home, an interest in the store and a good farm of forty-two acres, all tillable and well tiled, Mr. Ball having made many modern improvements thereon himself.

Fraternally, Mr. Ball is a member of the Knights of Pythias at Bellmore. He is a Republican and he was elected township trustee in 1904 of Union township, and he discharged his duties in this connection in a highly acceptable manner until 1908 when his term expired.

---

### JOHN NELSON SEYBOLD.

The respect that should always be accorded the brave sons of both the North and the South who left their homes and the peaceful pursuits of civil life to give their service, and their lives, if need be, to preserve the integrity of the Union, is certainly due John Nelson Seybold, farmer of Raccoon township, and a descendant of one of Parke county's worthy pioneer families. For he proved his love and loyalty to the government on the long and tiresome marches, in all kinds of situations, exposed to summer's withering heat and winter's freezing cold, on the lonely picket line a target for the missile of the unseen foe, on the tented field and amid the flame and smoke of battle, where the rattle of musketry, mingled with the terrible concussion of the bursting shell, and the deep diapason of the cannon's roar, made up the sublime, but awful, chorus of death.

To the heroes of the "Grand Army" all honor is due; to them the country is under a debt of gratitude which it cannot pay; and in centuries yet to be, posterity will commemorate their chivalry in fitting eulogy and tell their knightly deeds in story and song. To this rapidly vanishing host, passing into the phantom army of the silent land, belongs Mr. Seybold, still left with us to thrill us with remembrances of those stirring times of the sixties.

Mr. Seybold was born May 27, 1846, in Raccoon township, Parke county, Indiana, two miles from his present home. The ancestry of the subject can be traced back to his great-great-grandparents, who were Jasper and Rebecca Seybold, born in Bavaria, Germany, in 1730 and 1732, respectively.

The great-grandfather, Jasper Seybold, Jr., was born in Germany, Decem-

ber 26, 1757, and emigrated to America and was married to Nancy Carroll, of Carrollton.

The grandparent was Dempsey Seybold, born April 26, 1791, and who married Elizabeth Kerr, January 22, 1814. She was born September 18, 1793.

Thomas Kerr Seybold, father of the subject, was born July 8, 1816, in Mason county, Kentucky, and came with his parents to Raccoon township, on the 18th day of November, 1818, and was married February 4, 1836, to Mildred H. Sea. To them were born nine children, namely: Samuel K., Dempsey Carroll, William H. H., Mary E., Mahlon F., America Indiana, John Nelson, Susan and James H., three of whom are still living, John N., subject of this sketch, Susan Seybold Leslie, of Fredonia, Kansas, and James H., of North Terre Haute.

The mother of the subject, Mildred H. Sea, daughter of William Sea, was born February 14, 1814, in Rockbridge county, Virginia, and emigrated to Indiana in 1834; she died January 19, 1899. Thomas K. Seybold, the father, died May 9, 1850, leaving a large family of children for the mother to rear.

John N. Seybold was sent to Hancock county, Illinois, in September, 1852, living there until September, 1860, when he returned to Indiana and worked on a farm, receiving his education at district schools until July 20, 1863, when he enlisted at Rosedale in this county for six months' service in Company B, One Hundred and Fifteenth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, under Capt. William D. Mull. He saw considerable hard service in defense of the Union, marching in all over four hundred miles, receiving about one-third rations while on march and subsisting ten days on two ears of corn a day. He was at the battle of Blue Springs and part of the siege of Knoxville, eastern Tennessee, in October and November, 1863; was taken sick at Cumberland Gap, Virginia, with measles and sent home. He was mustered out on February 24, 1864, and on the same day enlisted in Battery H, First Indiana Heavy Artillery, and went south in March of that year to Fort Williams, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. He was moved from there to New Orleans and was later in battle at Mobile Bay and the siege at Fort Gaines and Fort Morgan, which lasted twenty-three days. He then returned to New Orleans, where he spent the winter of 1864 and 1865, then was returned to Mobile Bay. In February, 1865, was engaged in the siege of Spanish Fort, Fort Huger and Fort Tracy; was then moved to Fort Blakely, the last important battle of the war. The fort surrendered on April 12, 1865, a thousand men giving up their lives in this battle. The regiment



was detailed to do garrison duty, Company H being sent to Fort Gaines, where Mr. Seybold was honorably discharged, January 10, 1866, at Baton Rouge, Louisiana, when peace had spread her wings over the land, their services being no longer required, his service as a soldier having been most faithfully and gallantly performed.

Mr. Seybold was married January 30, 1868, to Hannah Mary Webster. To this union were born four children, namely: Ruth Isabel, born December 14, 1868; James Thomas, born April 30, 1870; Beulia Anne, born January 7, 1873; Martha Ellen, born March 30, 1875, all of whom survive except James Thomas, who died January 15, 1871.

The father of Mrs. Seybold, James Steward Webster, was born June 16, 1819, in Fayette county, Ohio (whose grandfather was William Webster, a soldier in the Revolution). He died September 10, 1882, in Raccoon township, having emigrated to this state when a boy. Her mother was born in Brooks county, Virginia, on August 6, 1812. She died April 5, 1899.

Mr. Seybold now resides on his farm at Salem. He was elected trustee in 1886 and served two years. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church at Salem and a trustee of the same, a member of Steel Post No. 9, Grand Army of the Republic, and a member of Carlin Lodge No. 402, Free and Accepted Masons, having served as master seven terms.

Mr. Seybold has a cane made by his great-great-grandfather, who lived in Germany. It is about one hundred and fifty years old, having been made in 1760, and it is highly prized as a family heirloom.

---

#### ROY C. HARRISON.

In any community, one of the most elevating influences is music. Music lovers always hold a prominent place in the social life, and are often most prominent in the business life of the ordinary American town. "The Band" is the organization about which all flock, and whose influence creates harmony and unity. One of the leaders in this respect in Clinton, Vermillion county, Indiana, is Roy C. Harrison, who has spent his life in that place and is a favorite in all the country around there. He is one of the most highly respected of the progressive young miners in that place.

Mr. Harrison was born in Clinton, Indiana, September 23, 1881, and is the son of Clarence R. and Sopha (Weber) Harrison. Clarence R. Harrison is the brother of E. R. Harrison, whose sketch may be found in this

book. Roy C. Harrison spent his early life as most of the other small boys in Clinton, being highly interested in the mines near there. He received a common school education, supplemented by the regular high school course. Soon after finishing school he started to work with the railroad company, in the position of night agent at the depot at Clinton, Indiana. He was not satisfied with this work and he accepted the position of weigh boss at Buckeye mine, which was then known as Oak Hill, and is now owned by the Deering Company. After a while he changed to the Klondyke mine, and was identified with that mine until the first of January, 1912, when he started to work at the J. K. Deering Mine No. 2. Mr. Harrison has been very successful in his work at the mines, and has proved himself a very valuable man to the companies for whom he has worked.

Mr. Harrison is a single man, and has thrown himself very enthusiastically into the work of the Musicians' Union, as well as other activities in his home town. He plays the melophone especially well and is a member of the Musicians' Union. Mr. Harrison also belongs to the band in Clinton, having been a member of this organization for about three years. He has also taken a leading part in the politics of Clinton, and is a Republican by conviction. As a native of that part of the country, and an energetic and able young man, who has the interests of his home and neighbors close at heart, Mr. Harrison is one of the most reliable and prominent of the younger citizens of Vermillion county.

---

#### JOSEPH L. FRANTZ.

When a county is rich in mines, as is Vermillion county, Indiana, they furnish a center for all the life of the district, and the men who have charge of them are naturally the most influential men in the community. Among those who hold prominent places in the mines near Clinton, Indiana, is Joseph L. Frantz, who in the short time he has been in this state has proved himself a valuable and reliable citizen and a business man of honesty and integrity.

Joseph L. Frantz was born in Champaign county, Ohio, August 29, 1880, and is the son of Samuel D. and Martha (Kent) Frantz. His father was born September 12, 1854, in Ohio, and still lives there. His mother was born April 18, 1856, and died April 18, 1903, in Ohio. They were prominent farmers in their home county, where they were raised, from the

days when they attended the common schools to the time when they reached maturity, and their son enjoyed the wholesome country life, though it was mixed with days of toil on the farm, and many hours were spent in the school, which was not made interesting by many facilities enjoyed by the present generation of children.

At the age of twenty-one years Mr. Frantz left the old home and made his way to Indiana. He became a teamster in Crown Hill mine No. 1, near Clinton, Indiana, and later was made a trimmer. A desire to see his home folks and work again in the soil took him back to Ohio soon, however, and he stayed there for four years, giving his entire attention to farming. In 1908 Mr. Frantz came to Vermillion county, Indiana, again and went to Crown Hill mine No. 3, where he worked for several years.

On June 28, 1911, Mr. Frantz married Isora Kelly, who was born on June 30, 1887. She received a common school education. They have one child, Joseph Leonard. Mr. Frantz's work at Crown Hill mine No. 3 was that of flat trimmer. He became top boss at Crown Hill mine No. 4, June 11, 1912, and still holds that position.

Mr. Frantz has been very successful in his work in the mines as he knows how to handle the men and the work in the most productive way, and he has made himself valuable to the company. Mr. Frantz is a Democrat, and is one of the leaders of his party because of his position of influence. It is to such men, young, energetic, keen, and of the highest business ability, to whom Clinton and Vermillion counties, Indiana, look for their future prosperity.

---

### JAMES GREGORY.

James Gregory is the son of Thomas Gregory, who has made his name famous in Vermillion county through his work in the mines of the Bunsen Company near Clinton and James Gregory is made of the same strong, persistent, courageous fibre as his father. He is not popular in Vermillion county alone for what his father has done, but is a well known citizen and highly respected man for what he is himself.

Mr. Gregory was born in Lancashire, England, July 24, 1882, and is the son of Thomas and Ellen Gregory, who were born in England in 1855 and 1854 respectively. He was brought to this country by his parents at the age of two months, and lived with them in Vigo county until 1905. He received a common school education, and through observation and instruc-

tion became well versed in the work in the mines which occupied the attention of his father. On June 22, 1905, he married Nellie Butler, who was born near Clay City, Indiana, in 1885. She attended the common school there and later went to the normal school at Terre Haute, Indiana, after which she taught in the schools for a while before she was married. They have one child, Eleanor Betty Gregory.

Mr. Gregory moved to Vermillion county in October, 1911, and he has done a great deal of work in the Bunsen Company mines since he has been here, as his father is now superintendent of the Universal Bunsen Coal Company mines near Clinton, Indiana. Although Mr. Gregory is not a native of this state, nor indeed of this country, he is as loyal a citizen and as keenly interested in the affairs of his community, socially, politically, and in a business way, as any ardent Hoosier. He is a Republican and a conscientious supporter of his party in his county. As are the rest of his family, his father, mother, brother and sisters, Mr. Gregory is a member of the Episcopal church. He is an energetic, industrious young man, and, though he has only lived in Clinton a short time, he has made his personality and business ability felt in the circles in which he has moved. He is ambitious and will undoubtedly prove to be one of the foremost citizens in his community.

---

### ARTHUR FERGUSON.

Progress is the law of successful living, and as men stay in line with this law, working faithfully and doing their part, their own endeavors and the insight they have gained into the conditions of their work raise them to positions of trust and importance. Arthur Ferguson is a striking example of what a young man can do in the mining field in Vermillion county, Indiana. He started eight years ago in very humble work in the mines near Clinton, Indiana, and has gradually worked his way up until he is now superintendent of four of the mines, and is one of the most valuable men in the employ of the company. Mr. Ferguson has also made his influence felt in his neighborhood, and is one of the most reliable and highly respected citizens of Clinton, Vermillion county, Indiana.

Mr. Ferguson is the son of C. J. and Mary (Thompson) Ferguson. His father was born in Putnam county, Indiana, where he received an ordinary common school education, and farmed for many years. He now lives in Terre Haute, Indiana. His mother was also a native of Indiana, and died in March, 1907. C. J. and Mary Ferguson had three children, all of



whom are now living. Arthur Ferguson was born October 10, 1881, in Bowling Green, Clay county, Indiana. He received a common school education and later attended high school at Terre Haute, Indiana.

Mr. Ferguson was married September 26, 1906, to Grace McClain, of Terre Haute, Indiana. She was born in that city March 16, 1880, and attended both the grade schools and the high school there. They have one child, Charles W. Ferguson, who was born September 26, 1908.

Mr. Arthur Ferguson began working in a grocery store in Clinton, Indiana, when he had finished school. Later he went to work for the railroad company, but he only stayed with them for two months and then went to work in Terre Haute, Indiana. Eight years ago he went to Clinton, Indiana, and started to work at mine No. 2, known as Crown Hill, firing. He worked faithfully at this for six months, and at the end of that time he had made such a good impression with those who held positions of authority in the company, that he was constantly given more responsible work until, in April, 1908, he became superintendent. Mr. Ferguson has been so successful in his work, and is so thorough in his methods, that in June, 1912, he took the position of superintendent over mines Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4, of the Crown Hill section. He is also thrifty and is one of the most substantial citizens of Clinton. Mr. Ferguson owns his own home in that place and takes an active part in the public interests of the community. He is a Democrat, speaking politically, and is careful to use his influence for the best movements that sweep the country.

Mr. Ferguson is a member of the Knights of Pythias in Clinton, Indiana, and his family hold as high a position in the social life of that place as he does in the business interests. Such men as Arthur Ferguson, working their way from humble to high positions, form the back-bone of the American nation, and their progress and success is the progress and success of the whole country.

---

#### OTIS M. KEYES, M. D.

For several generations the name of Dr. Keyes has been a familiar one to the citizens of Vermillion county. The father of the Doctor was one of the earliest practitioners in the county and he followed his profession first in pioneer times under conditions widely different from those of the present day. For forty-five years he practiced in the county, and before he retired his son had taken up his work and is now the oldest doctor practicing in the

county. The father was a man of strong character, firm in his devotion to his profession, unswerving in the pursuit of high ideals, a man of influence and power in his community. His son is his worthy successor in all respects, stands high in his profession, and the citizens of the county have repeatedly shown their confidence in him by sending him as their representative to legislative assemblies.

Otis M. Keyes is the son of Cuthbert and Jane (Bates) Keyes. His father was born in Vermillion county, Indiana, in 1822, and died there on February 8, 1885. His mother was born in Indiana in 1822 and is deceased. Cuthbert Keyes early manifested a liking for the profession of medicine, and took up its study at St. Louis University, St. Louis, Missouri. He located in Helt township of this county, and there practiced for forty-five years, the remainder of his life, and during this time became known to practically every man, woman and child in the township, by whom he was honored and respected. To him were born seven children, four of whom survive.

Otis M. Keyes was born in Vermillion county on August 3, 1854. After receiving a common school education he attended Bloomingdale Academy for a time, and then went to medical school at Louisville, Kentucky, where he graduated in 1878. The same year he took up the active practice of medicine, which he has since followed, and has now been practicing longer than any other doctor in the county. His practice has been large and successful.

On August 7, 1878, Dr. Keyes was married to Belle Hunt, who was born in Parke county, Indiana, on February 8, 1856, the daughter of Isaac N. Hunt, who was a well known carriage maker of Annapolis, Parke county. Mrs. Keyes was a school teacher for several years before her marriage. Dr. and Mrs. Keyes have one son, Dr. Paul Keyes, who practiced with his father for seven years, but is now in Indianapolis in the auto business. He married Esther Collier.

Doctor Keyes is a Mason, an Odd Fellow, and a Knight of Pythias. In politics he is a Republican, and has taken an active interest in political and public affairs for years. He was for one term trustee of his township; has served as health commissioner; was for one term a member of the lower house of the State Assembly, and for two terms a state senator. In all his public life he has uniformly satisfied the people and acquitted himself as would be expected from a man of his high character. The Doctor is the owner of a fine home in Dana, and of office property as well. He is a citizen whose life sets an example of devotion to the common good in its truest sense, both in private and public life, and in all his relations with his fellows.

## WILLIAM C. MYERS, M. D.

There is no profession or line of business which calls for greater self sacrifice or more devoted attention than the medical profession and the most successful physician is he who, through love of his fellow men, gives his time and earnest attention to the relief of human suffering. The successful physician is bound to make friends and will retain the respect and esteem of all classes of people. Among the citizens of Dana, Vermillion county, Indiana, who deserve specific mention in this work is the gentleman whose name appears above, for, though but fairly started up the steeps of life's battle, he has chosen wisely and has devoted his life to a profession which not only demands his closest attention and the exercise of all his mental powers, but which is also calculated to enlist his broadest sympathies for those whom he is called upon to minister to. He is well known in the community where he lives and stands in high repute among the people with whom practically his entire life has been spent.

William C. Myers was born on Christmas day, 1887, about twenty-five miles west of Dana, Indiana, in Illinois, and is the son of George Washington and Mary E. (Jones) Myers. These parents were both natives of Illinois, the father having been born on February 22, 1854, and the mother on August 25, 1865. The father was a leading man in his community and was a prominent supporter of the Democratic party. To him and his wife were born two children.

William C. Myers was reared under the parental roof and secured his elementary education in the public schools, being a graduate of the high school. He then entered the University of Chicago, where he remained two years, and then, having determined to make the practice of medicine his life work, he matriculated in the medical department of the University of Louisville, at Louisville, Kentucky, where he was graduated on May 30, 1911, receiving the degree of Doctor of Medicine. In July, 1912, Doctor Myers came to Dana, Vermillion county, and entered upon the active practice of his profession. Doctor Myers made an excellent record in all the educational institutions in which he studied and his record there and thus far since taking up his life work indicates a successful career through the years which are to come.

Politically, Doctor Myers is an ardent Democrat, giving full endorsement to the tenets of that party's platform. Fraternally, he is a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Free and Accepted Masons.

at Paris, Illinois. His religious membership is with the Christian church. Outside of his profession, Doctor Myers takes an intelligent interest in the welfare of the community and his support may be counted upon at all times in favor of every movement for the advancement of the public welfare, materially, morally, educationally or socially. Genial and approachable, he has since locating here gained a large circle of friends and is popular throughout the community.

---

### JAMES FERGUSON.

The Scotch seem to be particularly well adapted to mining and a number of the best miners in Vermillion county, Indiana, are Scotchmen, either by birth or blood. James Ferguson ranks foremost among his fellow workmen in his line near Clinton, Indiana, and though he has been in this country since he was two years old the Scotch traits are very strong in him and his steady persistence and fidelity to purpose have made him valuable to his employers. His father was William Ferguson, who was born in Ayrshire, Scotland, on September 18, 1856. He died April 21, 1912, in Clinton, Indiana. His mother also was born in Ayrshire, Scotland, and died in this country on May 26, 1890. Both parents had common school educations. They had seven children, three of whom are still living.

James Ferguson was born on September 18, 1879, in Ayrshire, Scotland. He was brought to this county at the age of two years, and came to Carbon, Indiana, in 1881. There he spent his youth. Later, when he had finished his education in the common schools, he came to Clinton, Indiana, in 1897. Mr. Ferguson is not a married man. He has always been a miner, and has been with the Clinton Coal Company for the last ten years. During this time he has lived in Clinton, and has made himself a portion of the foundation upon which the life of the community is built, as he has always proved himself reliable and trustworthy, a kindly neighbor and a trusted friend. These characteristics have also been of great assistance to him in his work and he is now engaged in construction work for the Clinton Coal Company, having been steadily advanced from the modest beginning he made ten years ago. He has taken a strong interest in his work, making his own welfare identical with that of the company, and for this reason he has made himself more valuable to them as the years have passed. Mr. Ferguson has also found time to take part in some of the social activities in Clinton, and is a member of the Eagles and the Knights of Pythias at that place. His religious



belief is that of the Methodist Episcopal church. Politically, Mr. Ferguson has taken his place with the Republicans, and is a loyal member of his party. He is a man of influence in the mines and in his community, and his influence is always given to the movements for the good of the greatest number of the citizens of the country that is his by adoption, if not by birth.

---

#### CHARLES S. REED.

One of the best known and the most popular names of Vermillion county, Indiana, is Reed, and Charles S. Reed and his wife and daughter, living at Dana, Indiana, have helped to make it so. Mr. Reed is a prominent citizen and landowner and is a man of large and good influence in that county. His wife and daughter also join in standing for all that is most refined, cultured and accomplished in that part of the state.

Charles S. Reed was born November 2, 1864, in Illinois, near the state line of Indiana. His father was Franklin Reed, who was born in North Carolina in 1818, and died at Sugar Grove, Illinois, February 1, 1884. His mother was born in 1826 and died October 2, 1889. Both of his parents had a common school education. They had twelve children, seven of whom are still living. His father was a prosperous farmer and one of the first citizens in his community. Mr. Reed received a common school education, and spent his youth in gaining that understanding of nature that can be obtained in no place other than on the American farm.

On September 2, 1887, Mr. Reed married Lydia J. Clawson, the daughter of Phillip P. and Lucinda (Traphagan) Clawson. She was born May 12, 1866, and was one of a family of six children, as follows: Joseph Carter, now residing near Paris, Illinois; Jennie Elizabeth, of Paris, Illinois; Thomas Albert, of the state of Washington; Lydia J. (Mrs. Reed); Elijah Hagler, of New Mexico; Henry Harrison, of Casey, Illinois. Mrs. Reed's father was a well educated and prominent man in his community. He died February 9, 1880, aged fifty-nine years, and his wife died August 19, 1878, aged forty-one years. Mrs. Reed received her education at the public schools.

Mr. Reed followed farming until eight years ago, and in it he was highly successful. He now owns about two hundred acres of land at Sugar Grove, Illinois; also one hundred and sixty acres in Oklahoma and town lots at West St. Bernice, besides two pieces of property in Dana, Indiana. His farm is well cultivated and equipped and is very productive. In 1905 Charles S.

Reed left the farm and went on the road with the H. T. Conde Improvement Company, in which he was highly successful as a salesman. In 1910 he engaged with the Peoria Cordage Company, of Peoria, Illinois, in whose employ he still continues.

Mr. Reed is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Dana, and is active in all the public affairs at that place. He has taken an active interest in the political situation and the needs of the country and has allied himself with the Progressive party, and is one of its leaders in that part of the state.

Not only is Mr. Reed well known for his own sake, but he has a daughter, Jewel, who is a splendid musician and a favorite not only in Vermillion county, but around Terre Haute, Indiana, she being the only child of Mr. and Mrs. Reed. She was born December 6, 1899, and is now ready for high school. She has had every advantage her fond parents could give her, and as she showed signs of musical talent at an early age, she was allowed to begin taking lessons on the piano when she was six and a half years of age. She has studied with Professor Blue, of Montezuma, Indiana, and has made wonderful progress, being ready for the ninth book of the artist's course now at the age of thirteen years. She has a parlor-grand piano in the beautiful home which her father owns, and her friends and relatives and, indeed, all Dana, are proud of the progress she has made in her musical career. Her father and mother see that in her and her music the lessons they have taught her will live for many, many years, and be given out to the world, and thus in her the highest ideals of the family will be given adequate and active expression.

---

#### GROVER C. PRITCHETT, M. D.

Among the young professional men in Dana, Indiana, who are attracting attention because of their devotion to the work is Dr. Grover C. Pritchett, who spent the days of his youth five miles from this place. He is doing this despite the prejudice that obtains among the older people of that community that he is not able to administer to their physical needs for the reason that they have known him from childhood, and the fact that they look askance on the newer methods obtaining in the medical world.

Dr. Pritchett spent the greater part of his youth in the country on his father's farm. His father was William Alfred Pritchett, who was born in Kentucky in the early part of the nineteenth century, and is now living in

Edgar county, Illinois. His mother was Molly (Glissiply) Pritchett, who also was a native of Kentucky. She died in 1887. They both received a common school education. William Alfred Pritchett is a farmer, and still actively engaged on his farm in eastern Illinois. He has five children. Grover C. Pritchett was born about five miles northwest of Dana, Indiana, in Edgar county, Illinois. He graduated first from the common schools and then from high school. Later he took a four-years course in the medical department of the University of Indiana, Indianapolis, graduating in 1910. He spent his next year in St. Anthony's Hospital in Terre Haute, Indiana, as interne, and after finishing his work there he located in Elizabethtown, Indiana. He came to Dana, Indiana, in June, 1912, and has been very successful considering the short length of time which he has had to establish himself. He has had a splendid education, is earnest in his work and inclined to devote all of his time to his profession, as he is a single man. He is awake on all of the live topics of the country today, and promises to add to the professional world new methods, and give both the social and political community the benefit of his energy and keen mentality. If he ends as he has started, his career will indeed be a benefit to his county and a credit to his friends and family.

---

### JOHN G. PUNTENNEY.

Among those who have watched the growth of Parke county is John G. Puntenney, who is one of its oldest and most faithful citizens. He has been a prosperous farmer in Wabash township, near Montezuma, Indiana, for many years, and he has helped materially the growth of that country. His father made a wise selection when, after wandering over many states, he finally picked out Parke county, Indiana, for his home. At that time Indiana was almost a wilderness. Aquilla Puntenney was born in Virginia. During his early childhood he was brought to Kentucky, lived there for two years, and then moved to Ohio. At the age of twenty-one he came to Indiana, and settled near Terre Haute, where he stayed two years, and then moved near Montezuma, near the present location of John G. Puntenney. He married Ellen Hedley, who was a native of Indiana, and died in 1842. He was quite successful on his farm and died there. Aquilla and Ellen Puntenney had six children, three of whom are still living.

John G. Puntenney was born December 14, 1834, in Wabash township, Parke county, Indiana. He spent his youth as the average American



JOHN G. PUNTENNEY.





farmer lad of those days, attending the country schools, working on the farm, enjoying the healthiest of out-of-door sports, and reading during the long winter evenings. He was married in 1875 to Margaret Hixon, who was also a native of Wabash township, Parke county, Indiana. Her father was William Hixon, a well-known farmer of that district. They have two children. Ethel married Virgil Marshall, and they live near her parents in Wabash township. Minnie is the wife of Bert Cook, and they also live in Parke county.

Mr. Puntenney has been very successful as a farmer and a general stock raiser, and he has one of the most productive farms in that part of the country. He now owns about three hundred and twenty acres of land in Wabash township, all of which, with the exception of about thirty acres, is tillable. Mr. Puntenney has always taken such good care of his land and worked it carefully, exercising good judgment in his rotation of crops and the general up-keep, that now it requires very little tilling to keep it in good condition. All the improvements on his place were made by Mr. Puntenney himself, and the whole well-kept place is a monument to his fore-thought, management and industry. He is now retired, and is living a life of comparative ease, merely overlooking the work on the farm, and giving the workers the benefit of his years of experience.

Politically speaking, Mr. Puntenney is a Prohibitionist and he has upheld his principles stoutly in his own county. He is a Mason at Montezuma and is looked upon by all those in the surrounding country as a man of sterling integrity and fine character who well deserves all good and the respect of all who know him.

---

#### FREDERICK A. MITCHELL.

Among the younger tillers of the soil in Parke county whose methods indicate that these hardy workers are abreast of the times is Frederick A. Mitchell, of near Bridgeton, Parke county, but he has had an able preceptor in his father, who has often been referred to as one of our best tillers of the soil.

Mr. Mitchell was born on August 6, 1874, in Parke county, Indiana, and is a son of Abel and America (Bell) Mitchell. The father was born on December 18, 1835, in Raccoon township, Parke county, the Mitchell family having been among the early settlers here and from that remote period to the

present they have been influential in the affairs of the community. The father has spent his life in his native township and is still actively engaged in general farming here. The mother of the subject was born on January 2, 1837, in Vigo county, Indiana, and she, too, is still living. Abel Mitchell has always taken an interest in public affairs and he made two races for county treasurer. He has not only been a successful farmer, but also a stock raiser. Until recently he raised short horn cattle, also Jerseys, but not on so extensive a scale. For many years he followed raising, fattening and shipping cattle to market, and no small part of his competency has been derived in that manner. His family consisted of nine children, four of whom are living.

Fred Mitchell grew up on the home farm and received a common school education, later taking a commercial course in Terre Haute. On January 14, 1894, he was united in marriage to Bertha Coombes, who was born on the old home place in Parke county, Indiana, her parents having been well established in Jackson township, and there she grew to womanhood and received her education in the common schools and two years in high school. She is a daughter of Andy J. and Emma (Peach) Coombes. To the subject and wife three children have been born, namely: Odus Merril, William John and Louise Margaret.

Mr. Mitchell has always followed farming with his father, and has met with continuous success as a general farmer and stock raiser.

Fraternally, Mr. Mitchell is a member of the Masonic order, the Knights of Pythias and the Woodmen, all at Bridgeton. Politically, he is a Democrat. He was elected to the office of trustee of Raccoon township in 1898 and is still incumbent of the same, his long retention being evidence of his entire satisfaction.

---

#### STEPHEN C. McELROY.

It will always be a mark of distinction to have served the Union during the Civil war between the states. The old soldier will receive attention no matter where he goes if he will only make himself known, and when he passes away, as so many of them are now doing, friends will pay him suitable eulogy for the sacrifices he made a half century ago on the sanguinary battle fields of the South, or in the no less dreaded prison, fever camp or hospital. And ever afterwards his descendants will revere his memory and take pride in recounting his services to his country in its hour of peril. One of the most eligible citizens for specific mention in a history of Parke and Vermillion

counties is Stephen C. McElroy, well known farmer of Jackson township, partly because he is one of the old soldiers who went forth in that great crisis in the sixties to assist in saving the union of states, and partly because he has been one of our honorable public-spirited citizens since the pioneer epoch, a plain, unassuming gentleman who has sought to do his duty in all the relations of life as he has seen and understood the right.

Mr. McElroy was born on March 24, 1839, in Putnam county, Indiana, about five miles west of Greencastle, and is a son of William and Martha (Charlotte) McElroy. The father was born on October 30, 1793, in Pennsylvania, and there he spent his earlier years, removing to Putnam county, Indiana, in October, 1838, and here he spent the rest of his life, dying in 1871. He was of Scotch descent and was a shoemaker by trade. He served in the war of 1812, and politically, he was a Whig. The mother of the subject was born January 3, 1802, in New Jersey, and her death occurred in 1878. To these parents eleven children were born, three of whom are still living.

Stephen C. McElroy received a common school education. Early in life he took up farming and has followed this to the present time. He is the owner of eighty acres in Jackson township, Parke county, which is well improved and very productive, all tillable. On this he has made all the modern improvements now to be seen, and he has a pleasant home.

Politically, Mr. McElroy is a loyal Democrat and has been active in local party affairs. He was trustee of Washington township, Putnam county, when he lived there, filling that office successfully for a period of five years. Religiously, he is a Baptist, and is a deacon in the local congregation. He was clerk of his church for twelve years, when he resigned.

Mr. McElroy enlisted on August 13, 1862, under the second call by President Lincoln for three hundred thousand men. He became a private under Captain Smiley in the Ninety-seventh Indiana Volunteer Infantry, at Greencastle, and he saw considerable hard service, some of the battles in which he participated being those of the campaign of 1864 about Atlanta, he having been in Alabama when it started, assisting in building a pontoon bridge three miles from Missionary Ridge. He was in the subsequent charge up the mountain there, then was sent to Knoxville. He was in several other battles, and finally joined Sherman on his march to the sea, and thence up through the Carolinas, being at Raleigh when the Southern army surrendered. From there he marched with his regiment to Washington, D. C., and was mustered out in June, 1865.

Mr. McElroy was married on March 25, 1860, to Isabel Coltharp, who



was born on February 2, 1840, in Indiana. She received a common school education. Her parents were John and Matilda A. (Rollings) Coltharp. Nine children have been born to Mr. McElroy and wife, all living but one. They were named as follows: Granville M. married Anetta Pickett, and he is farming in Crawford county; Mary E. A. married L. H. Athey, and they live in Greencastle; Ida M. is single and living at home; William married Ella Smith, and they live in Logansport; Joseph R. is deceased; Anna has remained single and lives at home; John married Maud Rogers, and they live in Putnam county; Henry P. has remained single and is living in Logansport; Mildred Myrtle was married to Albert Cahill, who died March 3, 1908; she has one child, Albert M., who was born April 7, 1908. The mother of the above named children was called to her eternal rest on November 20, 1909.

---

### OSCAR CHESTERFIELD.

The biographies of such men as Oscar Chesterfield, well known business man of Clinton, Vermillion county, are always interesting, if given only in brief outline, for they show what one can accomplish in this world when grit, perseverance and courage are coupled with sound common sense and honesty of purpose, no matter how discouraging one's early environment may be.

Mr. Chesterfield was born on August 10, 1875, in Clay county, Indiana. He is a son of John and Catherine (Martin) Chesterfield, the father a native of Cornwall, England, and the mother born in Indiana. John Chesterfield spent his early life in his native land, leaving England for the United States when twenty years old. He came to Brazil, Indiana, where he worked for the Zellar-McClellan Coal Company, eventually becoming superintendent of the same, giving eminent satisfaction in that responsible post. There his death occurred, when lacking two days of his forty-first birthday. His position with one of the largest and best known coal mines in the state made him well known. His family consisted of seven children, three of whom are still living. The mother is also living, making her home in Indianapolis.

Oscar Chesterfield was educated in the common and high schools in Terre Haute, graduating therefrom in 1893. On June 16, 1900, he was united in marriage to Logora Jone, who was also educated in the common schools and the high school. To this union one child has been born, Mabel, who is deceased.

Mr. Chesterfield first worked in the mines driving mules, while yet a

school boy. After leaving school he kept books for a coal company at Brazil, Indiana. After working with that concern for about three years, during which he gave the utmost satisfaction, he resigned, and later, February 11, 1900, he came to Clinton. He is now operating the Clinton Bottling & Ice Cream Company, which he owns and which he has made a great success. He started in a frame shed, twenty by twenty feet, and he is now located in a modern story-and-a-half brick plant, which is modernly equipped, all machinery and appliances being installed necessary for the rapid production of ice cream of a high grade and for the prompt manufacture of bottled goods, such as the soft drinks used at soda fountains, etc. He has built up a very extensive and rapidly growing business, there being a great demand for his products, owing to their superior quality and the sanitary conditions in which they are produced. He turns out on an average of from sixty to seventy boxes of soda per day.

Fraternally, Mr. Chesterfield belongs to the Knights of Pythias, the Eagles and the Owls, all of Clinton. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and politically is a Democrat. He owns a pleasant and neatly furnished home in Clinton, also a valuable dwelling in Brazil which he rents.

---

#### ELMER T. WELCH.

One of the progressive business men of the town of Bridgeton, Parke county, is Elmer T. Welch, who has done much for the upbuilding of the place and who at the same time has so ordered his life in all its phases as to gain the good will and confidence of all with whom he has come into contact. He has been successful in three distinct vocations, teaching, farming and merchandising, for he has always been willing to closely apply himself and to labor conscientiously for the good of others while benefiting himself.

Mr. Welch was born on June 17, 1862, in Penn township, Parke county, Indiana, and he has been content to spend his life in his home community. He is a son of John M. and Elizabeth (Moon) Welch. The father was born on June 27, 1818, in Kentucky, where he grew to manhood, receiving a meager schooling and from there came to Indiana in 1833, where he spent the rest of his life, engaging in farming and carpentering. He became well known to the people of Parke county in his day and generation. His wife was a native of this county, and to them ten children were born, eight of whom are still living.

Elmer T. Welch grew up on the old homestead and there he made himself generally useful while growing up. In the winter time he attended the common schools and the high school, later the Indiana State Normal.

On June 21, 1888, Mr. Welch was united in marriage to Dora Davis, who was born in Raccoon township, Parke county, Indiana, March 3, 1869, and here she grew to womanhood and was educated in the common schools and the Indiana State Normal School. To the subject and wife two children have been born, Pearl C., who is attending DePauw University at Greencastle, and Owen D., who is a student in the high school at Bridgeton.

Mr. Welch began life for himself as a school teacher, which he followed with much success for a period of ten years, during which his services were in great demand. He finally tired of the school room and turned his attention to farming, which he carried on with gratifying results for three years, then took up the grocery business in the town of Bridgeton, and this he has continued for the past eighteen years, during which he has built up a large and lucrative patronage with the town and surrounding country, always carrying a large line of general merchandise. He has been very successful in a business way. Besides his mercantile business, he owns a pleasant home in Bridgeton, and an undivided part in his father's old home farm. Fraternally, he is Knight of Pythias and a Democrat politically.

---

#### GEORGE D. SUNKEL.

There could be no more comprehensive history written of a community or county, or even of a state and its people, than that which deals with the life work of those who, by their own endeavor and indomitable energy, have placed themselves where they well deserve the title of "influential and progressive." In this brief sketch will be found the record of one who has outstripped the less active plodders on the highway of life; one who has been consistent in his life work and has never permitted "the grass to grow under his feet," one who, while advancing his own interests, has not neglected his full duties to the general public, at the same time upholding an honored family name. Mr. Sunkel is regarded by all who know him as one of the most promising of the younger lawyers of Vermillion county, his past notable achievements auguring well for the future.

George D. Sunkel, of Dana, Indiana, was born on October 15, 1879, on a farm near Redman, Illinois, and he is a son of George N. and Susanna

(Young) Sunkel. The father was born November 20, 1854, in Ohio and there spent his boyhood, removing to Illinois about the time of his marriage. He subsequently came to Terre Haute, Indiana, where he spent five years, and is now living in Scotland, Illinois. He has devoted most of his life to agricultural pursuits. The mother of the subject was born on February 6, 1858, in Ohio, where she spent her girlhood days. She is still living. These parents reared a family of four children, all surviving.

George D. Sunkel was reared on the home farm and received his education in the common schools and the high school. Deciding upon a legal career, he entered the Indiana Law School at Indianapolis, where he made a brilliant record, and from which he was graduated with the class of 1901. In 1903 he was admitted to the bar in Vermillion county and he has since been successfully engaged in the practice, figuring prominently in the local courts in important trials. He is a careful, conscientious and thoroughly up-to-date attorney who always has the interests of his clients at heart. He has always been more or less connected with farming, and he is the owner of a farm in Vermillion township, this county, also some valuable land in the West. He is the owner of a pleasant home in Dana.

Mr. Sunkel was married on September 15, 1907, to Jennie Wimsett, who was born in Illinois, September 2, 1884, where she grew to womanhood and received a common and high school education. She is a daughter of Joseph M. and Ann (Nichols) Wimsett, honorable farming people. The union of the subject and wife has been without issue.

Politically, Mr. Sunkel is a Democrat and has been active in the ranks for many years; in fact, is regarded as one of the leaders of the party in Vermillion county. He has served two terms as representative to the Legislature, having been elected in 1909 and 1911. He has given the utmost satisfaction as a public servant to his constituents and all concerned, making his influence felt for the general good of his locality and winning the admiration and confidence of all. Fraternally, he is a member of the Knights of Pythias at Dana.

---

#### WILLIAM A. JOHNSON, M. D.

One of the well known men of Vermillion county who is deserving of special mention in a work of the province assigned to the one at hand is Dr. William A. Johnson, of Perrysville, who has gained prestige in the healing art, which is always the outcome of close application and the ability to apply theory to practice in the treatment of diseases. Good intellectual train-



ing, thorough professional knowledge and an exemplary character have made the subject of this review successful in his chosen vocation while yet young in years, having built up a lucrative patronage during the short time he has been in the practice, and, judging from his excellent start, the future must necessarily have much in store for him.

Dr. Johnson was born on November 5, 1883, in Fountain county, Indiana, and he is a son of James H. and Evelyn (Holland) Johnson, the father having been born in Fountain county, this state, in 1856, and there he grew to manhood and received his education in the common schools. His parents had located in that county when it was in its early stages of development and thus the Johnsons have been well known in Fountain county for many decades. The father of the subject is now living in a cozy home in Perrysville, Vermillion county. The mother of the subject was also born in Fountain county, where she grew to womanhood and received her education. She is still living, the parents and son constituting a happy household, together with four other children, one child of the six born to James H. Johnson and wife being deceased. The father has devoted his life to farming and railroading, and is now living retired, having accumulated a competency for his old age.

Dr. Johnson grew up on the farm in Fountain county, where he assisted with the work about the place when a boy, and he received his early education in the common schools. Early in life he determined upon a medical career and with this end in view he entered Loyola University, in Chicago, where he made a splendid record and from which institution he was graduated in 1910, and he at once began practice in Perrysville, Indiana, where he has since remained, having been successful from the first.

Fraternally, Dr. Johnson is a member of the Masonic order, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and the Knights of Pythias, all at Perrysville. Dr. Johnson has remained unmarried.

---

#### JOHN A. WELCH, M. D.

The name of Dr. John A. Welch needs no introduction to the readers of this volume, for his reputation as a general physician has been ever on the increase during the forty years of his practice at the village of Lena, Parke county, and he has been regarded as one of our most representative and useful citizens during that long period, while always very busy in looking after his scores of patients, he has never lost sight of his duties as a citizen.

upholding the dignity of an honored old Southern family name and supporting every movement having as its object the betterment of his adopted county in a material, civic or moral way.

Dr. Welch was born on April 27, 1848, in Jessamine county, Kentucky, and he is a son of Thomas T. and Elizabeth (Springer) Welch, both also natives of Kentucky, the father's birth occurring in 1819 and that of the mother in 1821. There they grew to maturity, were educated and married, and there they spent their lives, the father dying there, after which event the mother came to Indiana, where her death occurred in 1901. Thomas T. Welch was a merchant, handling general merchandise and groceries, and was successful, this having been his main business through life. His family consisted of three sons and one daughter, all living but one.

Dr. Welch grew to manhood in the Blue Grass state and there he received his early education in the public schools. Early in life he decided to enter the medical profession and with this end in view he entered the Rush Medical College in Chicago, later studied at the College of Physicians and Surgeons in Indianapolis, and was graduated from the latter institution. Soon afterwards he began practicing his profession at the town of Filmore, Putnam county, Indiana, where he soon had a good start and where he remained until 1872, when he came to Lena, Parke county, where he has since remained, having enjoyed a very large practice during that period. He has ever remained a student and has kept fully abreast of the times in all that pertains to his calling, so his uniform success has not created any wonder, but was to be expected, for he had, in the first place, entered his profession exceptionally well equipped.

Doctor Welch was married on December 15, 1870, to Jennie Ragan, of Putnam county, who was born in 1850. She received a good common school education, also attended high school at Greencastle. She is a daughter of Ruben Ragan, who was the first president of the Indiana Horticultural Society and a man of influence in his community. Seven children have been born to the Doctor and wife, namely: Lily is deceased; Ernest, who married Sady Jorner; Hattie is single and lives at home; Edna, Belle, Victor and Babe are all deceased.

Politically, Dr. Welch is a Democrat and has been influential in his party. He belongs to the Masonic order at Carbon, Indiana. He has been very successful in a financial way, owning a commodious home in Lena and a fine farm on the Clay county line, consisting of two hundred acres, all tillable, and his land is underlaid with a good vein of coal.

## WILLIAM GOODIN.

The subject of this sketch has passed his life in Parke county, and as a representative of one of the honored families, early settled in this section, he is well entitled to representation in this volume.

William Goodin was born on October 22, 1858, in Parke county, Indiana, and here he has been content to spend his life engaged in agricultural pursuits, at which he has been successful because he has not been afraid of hard work and has managed well. He is a son of William and Mary (Hull) Goodin. The father was born in Ireland, in which country he spent his early boyhood and from which he came to the United States when a young man, coming finally to Indiana. He had married previously and had been a school master, but after he took up his residence in the Hoosier state he turned his attention to farming, which he followed with satisfactory results during the residue of his days. The mother of the subject was born in Bracken county, Kentucky, April 1, 1818, and she received a common school education there. Nine children were born to William Goodin, Sr., and wife, four of whom are still living, Kane, of Detroit, Michigan; Edwin, of Jackson township; Albert, of San Antonio, Texas, and the subject.

Mr. Goodin grew up on the home farm, where he made himself generally useful during his boyhood days, and he received his education in the common schools and at the Waveland Collegiate Institute. On August 1, 1878, he married Emily Miller, who was born in 1854. She is a daughter of James N. and Sarah A. Miller and a sister of Richard Miller, a sketch of whom and the Miller family is to be found elsewhere in this volume. Mrs. Goodin grew to womanhood in this locality and was educated here.

To the subject and wife four children have been born, namely: Mary Ann, who married Morris Wilson, and they live in Jackson township, Parke county, he being a farmer; Lottie C. married William McHargue, and they also live in Jackson township; James H. is at home; Howard W. is also with his parents.

With the exception of one year spent in the mercantile business at Mansfield, Indiana, Mr. Goodin has always been engaged in general farming. He began in a small way and, by good management and close application, he has been uniformly successful, being now one of the most substantial and enterprising general farmers and stock men in Jackson township. He is the owner of over five hundred acres of valuable land, all in Jackson township, over two hundred of which is tillable. He has done a good deal of tiling and made such other modern improvements as his needs required. He has a substantial

residence and large, convenient outbuildings, and always keeps a good grade of live stock on his place.

Mr. Goodin has served as trustee of Jackson township, being elected on the Democratic ticket. He is one of the directors of the First State Bank of Carbon, Indiana.

---

### ALBERT AYE.

Enjoying marked prestige among the attorneys of the section of the Hoosier state of which this volume treats, Albert Aye, of Dana, Vermillion county, stands out a clear and distinct figure among the useful men of his locality, which he has sought to promote in every way practicable and which he has ever had a love and appreciation for during his long years of continuous residence here. Characterized by a knowledge of the law and all phases of jurisprudence, and a loyalty to the higher ideals of life, he has ever enjoyed the confidence and esteem of all classes and is justly deserving of the material success he has attained and the high position he holds in the community.

Mr. Aye was born on November 25, 1849, in Vermillion county, Indiana, and here he has been contented to spend his life, having ever had an abiding faith in the future of his home community. He is a son of Henry and Mary (James) Aye. His father was born on November 10, 1796, in Maryland, and there he spent his earlier years, removing to Indiana in 1839, and his death occurred on July 18, 1870. He devoted his life successfully to agricultural pursuits, and in politics he was a strong Republican. The mother of the subject was born in Pennsylvania on July 4, 1804, and her death occurred in March, 1890. Fourteen children were born to these parents, seven of whom are still living. Mrs. Mary Aye, the mother of the subject, was a woman of many commendable characteristics. She was highly intellectual, one of the greatest readers in the country and was especially versed in ancient history and the Bible. The subject owes much to her careful training and guidance.

Albert Aye grew up on the home farm in his native county and received his primary education in the common schools, later taking up the study of law and was admitted to the bar in January, 1912, and has since been engaged in the practice in Vermillion county. He has long manifested much interest in public affairs, and he has served as justice of the peace for a period of seven years, being still incumbent of that office, the duties of which he is discharging in a manner that is highly acceptable to all concerned.

Mr. Aye was married on June 29, 1886, to Mary M. Randall, who was a



native of Illinois, born September 10, 1844. She is a daughter of Jacob and Lydia Ann (Jackson) Randall, her father being quite a prominent man in his day. To the union of the subject and wife was born one child, who died in infancy.

Mr. Aye is a member of the Presbyterian church, of which he is clerk and treasurer. Politically, he is a Republican and has been active in the work of his party for some time. He owns a comfortable home in Dana and an office there, and he and his wife own a well improved and valuable farm, consisting of eighty acres in Helt township, all tillable.

---

### JACOB S. COLE.

One of the men of Parke county who has lived to see the great transformation from the pioneer days to the present and who has taken a prominent part in the same is Jacob S. Cole, of Jackson township, one of our most substantial tillers of the soil and a well known citizen. Mr. Cole was born on February 9, 1838, in Ross county, Ohio, and he is a son of John and Sarah (Willet) Cole. The father was born in 1796 in Virginia, and after living some time in Ohio he came to Parke county, Indiana, and established the future home of the family in 1839 and here spent the rest of his days, dying in October, 1847. The mother of the subject was born in 1800 and she died in 1853. She was a native of Ohio. These parents spent their lives engaged in general farming, and to them seven children were born, two of whom are still living, Jacob S., of this sketch, and Joseph W., of Bridgeton, Parke county.

Jacob S. Cole grew to manhood on the home farm, where he helped with the work about the place, and he received his education in the rural schools and the high school at Rockville. In 1860 he was united in marriage to Eliza Evans, whose death occurred in 1871, and subsequently in that year he was again married, his last wife being Sarah C. Langford, who was born in Indiana and whose death occurred in 1893. The subject's family consisted of seven children, namely: Albert and Rose are deceased; Anna married Fred Dicks, and they live in Summit Grove, Vermillion county; Minnie was next in order; Claude, who married Abbie Bartlett; Blanche married P. W. Reeves, and they live in Indianapolis; Nellie married John A. Wells, and they live near Carbon, Clay county, Indiana.

Mr. Cole belongs to the Masonic order at Brazil, Indiana. He is a mem-

ber of the Christian church and, politically, he cast his first vote for Abraham Lincoln, but is now a Progressive. He is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic by virtue of the fact that in 1865 he enlisted in the Eleventh Indiana Volunteer Infantry, under Captain Mathews, in Putnam county, and he served very faithfully on detailed duty until after the close of the war, being mustered out in August, 1865.

Mr. Cole has always followed farming and has been uniformly successful, and he is now the owner of two hundred and eighty acres of good land on which he has put modern improvements. He also owns valuable property in the city of Brazil, consisting of three vacant lots and three houses, which he rents.

---

#### F. M. GATES.

The record of the gentleman whose name introduces this sketch is that of a man who by his own unaided efforts has worked his way from a modest beginning to a position of influence and comparative prosperity in his community. Throughout his career he has maintained the most creditable standards of personal and business integrity, and without putting forth any efforts to the end of attaining popularity he has achieved it in a local way by the manner in which he has ever transacted the every-day affairs of a busy man. He is one of the veterans of the greatest war which history has recorded, having done his part in suppressing the hosts of rebellion and treason in our thus for numerous reasons his life history should be given space in this history. nation's direst hour of peril. He is a son of one of our best old families, and thus for numerous reasons his life record should be given space in this history.

F. M. Gates was born on May 6, 1839, in Fayette county, Indiana, the son of A. B. and Almira (Boden) Gates. The father was born on January 14, 1808, in New York, and he was one of the early settlers of Indiana, coming here in 1816 when this state entered the Union, he being then eight years of age. His parents located with him in the eastern part of the state, and he spent the rest of his life among the Hoosiers, dying on July 1, 1904. The mother of the subject was born in 1814 in Ohio and died in 1867. A. B. Gates followed farming. He furnished rock for several towns along the White Water canal, some rock for the canal when it was being constructed, and afterwards he operated a mill. His family consisted of ten children, five of whom are still living.

F. M. Gates grew to manhood in his native community, but he had no chance to obtain an education, spending about a year in school. He never

carried a slate. However, this lack was made up for later in life by actual contact with the business world and by home reading of a miscellaneous sort. He has been three times married, uniting with his present wife in 1887. She was known in her maidenhood as M. Newite. The subject has two children, A. B. Gates, who married A. Gargus, and they live in Logansport; Viola, who married George Kerr, lives in Parke county.

Mr. Gates began the saw-mill business in 1858 in Putnam county, and later he helped build the Rockville road. He has been very successful in a business way and has been retired four years. He is the owner of valuable land in Lena, also one hundred and forty-five acres in Jackson township, eighty acres of which is tillable, the balance being good pasturage.

Mr. Gates enlisted in August, 1861, in Company I, Thirty-first Indiana Volunteer Infantry, under Captain Harvey, and was sworn into the Union service on September 6th, of that year, at Terre Haute. He was sick at Calhoun and laid up there three months, then was sent to Evansville, and discharged on February 9, 1863, after a very faithful service in defense of the flag in numerous engagements. Politically, he is a Republican, and religiously a Baptist.

---

### GREEN T. TAYLOR.

Throughout his life Green T. Taylor, one of Parke county's progressive farmers, has manifested the most creditable standards of integrity in both private and business life, which has always been one of unceasing industry and perseverance, and the systematic and honorable methods which he has followed have won him the unbounded confidence of his fellow men. He is a native of the Blue Grass state and, like most men from there, is genial and hospitable and is therefore liked wherever he is known.

Mr. Taylor was born on December 15, 1856, in Kentucky, and he is a son of Calvin and Rose (Smith) Taylor. The father was born in Kentucky and the mother in Virginia and they are both deceased. Calvin Taylor was a mechanic by trade, also a farmer, owning two good farms. His family consisted of five children, two of whom are still living, Green T., of this sketch, and John, of near Bedford, Indiana.

Green T. Taylor grew to manhood on the home farm and received his education in the common schools. He came to Indiana when young and was married in Monroe county in 1873 to Mary L. Browning, daughter of Andrew L. and Sarah Browning, to which union four children have been born.

namely: William, who married Sarah Bratton, is preaching in Newton county; Calvin Y. married Lottie Martin, and they live on a farm three miles west of that of the subject; Lucy is at home; Rosa is deceased.

Mr. Taylor has always followed farming and general stock raising, and continued success has followed his efforts. He is now the owner of two hundred and forty acres, about one hundred acres of which are under a high state of cultivation. He has improved his place until it now ranks with the best in the township. He has a comfortable home and good outbuildings, and an excellent grade of livestock is to be seen about his fields.

Mr. Taylor is one of the honored veterans of the great civil struggle between the states, he having enlisted in November, 1863, in the Forty-ninth Kentucky Volunteer Infantry, under Captain LaForce, and he saw considerable hard service, participating in several great battles, such as Nashville and Perrysville. He was out a little over a year, being honorably discharged in December, 1865.

Mr. Taylor attends and supports the United Brethren church. Politically, he is a Republican and takes considerable interest in local affairs. Since September 1, 1910, he has been incumbent of the office of county commissioner, the duties of which he has discharged in an able and acceptable manner.

---

#### WILLIAM P. BLAKE

One of the best known pioneer native sons of Parke county, gallant soldier and successful farmer and stock raiser, is William P. Blake, of Union township, where he has spent his life, having had the rare privilege of remaining on the old homestead for a period of three-quarters of a century. That he has been a skillful tiller of the soil is seen from the fact that he has kept the old place in such a condition that it has produced abundant crops annually and at the same time has not been depleted of its original fertility and strength of soil. His life has been an industrious and honest one and he has ever stood well in the community.

Mr. Blake was born in a log cabin on the place which he now owns on January 28, 1837, and he is a son of Charles L. and Barbara (Miller) Blake. The father was born in Ohio, in March, 1809, and his death occurred in March, 1878. The mother of the subject was born in 1816, in Ohio, from which state she came to Indiana when a girl, and her death occurred in January, 1864. These parents devoted their lives to general farming, and they had eight children, four of whom are still living.



William P. Blake grew to manhood on the home farm and there found plenty of hard work to do when a boy, as the son of a pioneer, and he received a limited education in the common schools.

Mr. Blake has been twice married, first in February, 1862, to Louisa McGilvery, whose death occurred in 1874, and in December, 1877, he was united in marriage to Mary E. (Jack) Blake, who was born in October, 1838, the daughter of James T. Jack, and her death occurred in 1910. The subject was the father of six children, two of whom are still living, namely: Charles W., deceased; George S. has remained single; Mary E. is deceased; Cora E. is deceased; Sarah E. is deceased; William P.

Mr. Blake has devoted his life to agricultural pursuits and prosperity has attended his efforts. He is now the owner of five hundred acres of valuable land, all in Union township, but about eighty acres which lie in Greene township. He has long carried on general farming and stock raising on an extensive scale, and he is regarded as one of the most successful and substantial farmers of the county. He has a commodious home and large, convenient outbuildings, everything about his place denoting thrift and good management.

Fraternally, he belongs to the Masonic order at Rockville, and politically he is a Republican. He is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic by virtue of the fact that he enlisted on July 31, 1862, in the Seventy-eighth Indiana Volunteer Infantry. Having been on detached duty most of the time and sick awhile, he did not see much fighting, though he participated in one skirmish. He was honorably discharged in September, 1862.

---

#### CHARLES N. FULTZ.

It is proper that the descendants of the old settlers, those who cleared the land of its primitive woods, should see that the doings of the earlier years are fittingly remembered and recorded. It was said by one of the greatest historians that those who take no interest in the deeds of their ancestors are not likely to do anything worthy to be remembered by their descendants. Charles N. Fultz, one of the leading young attorneys of Vermillion county, is a scion of one of the early families of this locality, many of whose worthy characteristics he seems to have inherited, for he believes in keeping busy, being public spirited, doing what he can toward furthering the interests of his community,

at the same time so guarding his conduct as to merit the confidence and respect of his acquaintances and friends.

Mr. Fultz was born in Eugene township, Vermillion county, Indiana, December 21, 1879, and he is a son of Albert F. and Ida M. (Johnson) Fultz, both natives of this county. William Fultz, great-grandfather of the subject, came to this county as early as 1826 or 1827, from Pennsylvania, and purchased land at a government sale in Eugene township, on what was called Sand prairie, and there he followed farming the rest of his life, developing a good farm from the wilderness through hard work and perseverance, enduring the hardships incident to such a life on the frontier. He became one of the leading citizens of this locality and added to his original purchase as he prospered until he became the owner of between two thousand and three thousand acres of land. On part of this land lived the subject's paternal grandparents, Isaac and Ann (Keller) Fultz, and the subject's maternal grandmother, Levisa Bailey, was also a very early settler. To Isaac Fultz and wife were born four children, namely: Albert, father of Charles N., of this sketch; William W., of Eugene, this county; Clara, who married Ed. Whipple, deceased; Isaac Edward was the youngest. Albert Fultz, father of these children, was educated at what was known as the Iles school, a mile north of old Eugene, and he followed farming many years, moving to the village of Eugene in 1884, where he followed carpentering and contracting and is still thus successfully engaged. He has taken an interest in public affairs and has been township assessor for twenty years. He married Ida N. Johnson, daughter of Edward B. Johnson, and to this union seven children were born, six of whom are still living, namely: Charles N., of this review; Mamie married Earl Chaffee, of Crawfordsville; Pearl married Frank Shellenberger, of Keokuk, Iowa; Jesse, who married Florence Turner, lives in Newport; Audrey and Doyne both live in Eugene, this county. The father of these children is a Democrat and active in party affairs. He belongs to the Loyal Order of Moose. Mrs. Fultz is a member of the Presbyterian church.

Charles N. Fultz, of this sketch, was educated in the public schools of Eugene, later attending the Indiana University at Bloomington, from which institution he was graduated in 1906, in the law department. He began life for himself as teacher in the high school at Eugene, in which capacity he gave eminent satisfaction. Since 1906 he has been successfully engaged in the practice of law at Newport, and has built up a very lucrative and satisfactory practice. In November, 1910, he entered into partnership with Homer B. Aikman, which still continues, this being one of the most popular firms in Vermillion and Parke counties.

Mr. Fultz was married on April 9, 1902, to Goldie Smith, daughter of B. J. Smith, of Georgetown, Illinois.

Politically, Mr. Fultz is a Democrat and has always been loyal in his support of the party, being influential in local affairs. He was formerly attorney for Cayuga. He is a director in the Citizens State Bank of Newport. Fraternally, he was master of the Masonic lodge at Newport for three years, and he belongs to the Royal Arch Masons at Clinton, the Order of Eastern Star, the Knights of Pythias and the Pythian Sisters. He is a young man of fine personal character and is popular with all classes.

---

#### WILLIAM RIGGS.

The career of William Riggs has been varied, but to whatever he has turned his attention to he has succeeded most admirably, for he seems to have a versatility of talents, and, being willing to put forth his best efforts always and do conscientious work, he has never failed to have the confidence of his employers and the good will of those with whom he had dealings. He is at present top boss with the Mecca Coal Company, of this county, with which he has labored for years, mostly in a traveling capacity, his long retention being sufficient criterion of his faithfulness to duty and also of his exemplary personal habits.

Mr. Riggs was born on October 10, 1864, in Clay county, Indiana, and he is a son of William J. and Carolina (Taylor) Riggs. The father was a native of Tennessee and the mother was born in Georgia, each representing old Southern families, and they spent their earlier years in the South, the father of the subject having removed to Indiana and locating permanently in the year 1863. And here he and his wife spent the residue of their days, both being now deceased, the father dying in 1883 and the mother passing away in 1898. They spent their lives on a farm. Nine children were born to them, five of whom are still living.

Mr. Riggs, of this review, grew to manhood in his native locality, and he received his education in the public schools. On May 11, 1890, he was united in marriage to Miram Heacox, who was born on July 31, 1871, and who was educated in the common schools in Parke county. She is a daughter of Hiram and Elizabeth (Deacons) Heacox. To the subject and wife have been born eight children, namely: Calvin, who married May Barton, of Rockville; Charles is at home; Albert, William, Edward, Gladys, Sherman and Howard.

Mr. Riggs was reared on a farm and he followed that line of endeavor with gratifying results until he was about twenty-four years old. Later he went into the timber business, handling shingles and staves, etc., and he built up a successful trade which claimed his attention for some time. He next went to the Otter Creek Coal Company, with which he remained, giving eminent satisfaction until he went to the Mecca Coal Company about 1900, and he is now top boss with this concern. During his twelve years of service with this company he has been held in the highest esteem by his employers.

Politically, Mr. Riggs is a Progressive and, fraternally, he belongs to the Knights of Pythias. Religiously, he is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

---

#### EDGAR R. STEPHENS.

It is customary for the people of the United States to look upon every boy as a possible future occupant of any office within the gift of the people. This is one of the main reasons that we rejoice in this country and its institutions, for all parents know that it is not an impossibility for their boy to occupy the highest positions in public and business life in the land. There is something in this thought to work for. Not merely the accumulation of dollars and cents, but the acquirement of an honored position in civic and social circles is something worth fighting for in the great war for existence. In pioneer times people had enough to do to make a respectable living, without taking into account the higher problems of society and civilization, but that time is past and a better time has arrived, with higher hopes, promises and rewards. Accordingly, where once stood the pioneer cabin is now the commodious and comfortable residence of the well-to-do descendant, with its piano, its college graduate and its library of books and periodicals. But the children of today little reckon of the many weary steps taken by their fathers to reach this desirable state of advancement and comfort. Edgar R. Stephens, one of the most progressive business men of Newport, Vermillion county, is a descendant of such a pioneer, R. E. Stephens, a complete sketch of whom will be found on another page of this work.

Edgar R. Stephens was born at Newport Indiana, October 9, 1867, and is a son of R. E. and M. E. (Sexton) Stephens, natives of Vermillion county, each representing fine old families, members of which have been well known here from the days of the early settlers. The subject of this sketch grew to manhood in his native community and here attended the public schools, later



entering the Shattuck School at Fairbault, Minnesota, also took the course at De Pauw University, Greencastle, Indiana. Thus well equipped from an educational standpoint, he began life for himself in 1887 by engaging in the drug and general merchandise business in Newport, and he has continued in these lines to the present time with ever-increasing success, having built up an extensive and lucrative trade with the surrounding country. He has been alone all the while with the exception of two years, when he was in partnership with H. B. Rhodes. He always carried a large and carefully selected stock of goods and his store is neatly kept. By his courtesy and honesty he has won the confidence and good will of his hundreds of regular customers. He devotes all his time to his business.

Mr. Stephens was married on January 8, 1894, to Dora Michener, daughter of A. and Maria Michener, a highly respected family of Spencer, Indiana. To this union one child has been born, Charlotte Stephens.

Politically, Mr. Stephens is a Republican and was town treasurer for a period of fourteen years, his long retention being sufficient evidence of his high standing in the community and his faithful work as a public servant. Fraternally, he is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Knights of Pythias, the Court of Honor and the Modern Woodmen of America, and is prominent in fraternal circles here.

---

#### WILLIAM N. COX.

One of the well known attorneys and business men of Parke and Vermillion counties who has long occupied a prominent place in the esteem of the people of the Wabash country is William N. Cox, of Bloomingdale. As an attorney he is regarded as a careful and painstaking member of the local bar and as a business man fair dealing is his watchword in all his transactions, so that he has always enjoyed the confidence and universal respect of the people of this locality. He has devoted his attention for the last fifteen years principally to real estate, insurance, loans and collections, in which he has been very successful. He is optimistic, looking on the bright side of life and never complains at the rough places in the road, knowing that life is a battle in which no victories are won by the slothful, but that the prize is to the vigilant and the strong.

Mr. Cox was born on a farm in the northern part of Penn township, which his grandfather Cox entered from the government when this section

of the country was a wilderness; thus the Cox family has been well known here since the pioneer days and its several members have played no inconspicuous part in the general development of the same. Both Allen Cox and Samuel Hockett, grandfathers of the subject of this review, were natives of North Carolina, having been born near Guilford. The parents of William N. Cox were Adam and Sarah Cox, well known and highly respected people of Parke county during a past generation. The father's death occurred on January 17, 1812, and the mother passed away on January 3, 1908, the former at the age of seventy-seven years and the latter when seventy-three years old.

William N. Cox grew to manhood on the home farm and there assisted with the general work about the place, attending the local public schools during the winter months. Early in life he entered Friends' Bloomingdale Academy, taking a special course under Prof. A. F. Mitchell's principalship. He studied law and was admitted to the Rockville bar in 1901. As years passed he began taking an active interest in public affairs and, his peculiar fitness for positions of public trust soon attracting the attention of the people, he has been elected to a number of important local offices, in all of which he has discharged his duties in an able and conscientious manner and to the eminent satisfaction of all concerned. He is at this writing serving his second term as probation officer of Parke county, to which office he was appointed by Judge Aikman. Since 1903 he has served the town of Bloomingdale as town clerk and is now serving as clerk and treasurer. He is regarded as one of the most progressive and public-spirited citizens of Bloomingdale and has done much toward general improvement, always contributing freely of his time and means to the town's welfare. As a business man he has built up a large and rapidly increasing patronage in insurance, real estate, loans and collections. By his straightforward methods he has gained the confidence of the people.

Mr. Cox was married in 1899 to Grace Connelly, of Coffeyville, Kansas, daughter of Charlie Connelly, who was killed by the Dalton gang during their last raid, on the Coffeyville banks, about 1890, at which time five of the number were killed, Emmett Dalton being captured and imprisoned for a period of twenty-one years, and now resides in Bartlesville, Oklahoma. Mr. Connelly was marshall of Coffeyville at the time, and was known there as a brave and able officer, well liked by the people.

Mr. Cox and wife purchased a pleasant home in Bloomingdale at the time of their marriage. Three daughters, Marcia, Aileen and Mary, were born to them. The wife and mother passed to her rest in 1908 at the age of thirty-seven years, her birth having occurred on August 19, 1871. Her

mother was Mary McCord, daughter of Newton McCord, a prominent citizen of Parke county, in his day and generation.

Mr. Cox has succeeded in keeping his little girls together, giving them every possible attention and advantage. He has three brothers, U. C. Cox, of Bloomington, Indiana; E. E. Cox, a clothier of Greenville, Illinois, and A. A. Cox, chief contractor and builder on the agricultural experiment farm, an adjunct to the Chicago University.

---

### HENRY WATSON.

In studying the life history of Henry Watson, well known business man of Newport, who has long been closely identified with the interests of that city and Vermillion county, we find many qualities in his make-up that always gain definite success in any career if properly directed, as they have evidently been done in his case. With a mind capable of planning, he combines a will strong enough to execute his well-formulated purposes, and his great energy, sound judgment and perseverance have resulted in success, and at the same time he has so guarded his conduct as to retain the undivided respect and good will of the people of this locality.

Mr. Watson was born in Helt township, Vermillion county, Indiana, January 16, 1867, and he is a son of James and Lucy J. (Good) Watson, the father a native of Butler county, Ohio, and the mother of Frankfort, Kentucky. John Watson, the paternal grandfather, was a native of Ohio, devoting his life to farming. He came to Vermillion county, Indiana, where he spent some time, but later returned to his native state, where he died. There were thirteen children in his family, three of whom are still living, namely: James, father the subject; Lucy and Hannah. James Watson is still engaged in farming in Helt township. His family consists of the following children: James Monroe lives in Hillsdale; Henry, of this review; B. F., of Terre Haute; Mary G. married W. L. Pearman, deceased; Otis A. lives in Clinton, Indiana; Ella, who married Lon Baum, of Clinton, and Della, who married Edgar Lewis, of Kansas City, are twins; Joseph H. lives in Terre Haute. James Watson, father of the above named children, followed flat-boating on the Ohio and Mississippi rivers to New Orleans in the early days, and he has many interesting reminiscences of those times. After leaving the river he took up farming. Politically, he is a Republican.

Henry Watson grew up on the home farm in Helt township and was edu-

cated in the country schools. Early in life he learned the barber's trade, which he followed for a period of twenty-five years, becoming widely known throughout this section. Eighteen years of that time were spent in Newport. In 1902 he added gents' furnishing and custom tailoring to his business and this grew to such proportions that in 1911 he abandoned the barber business and has since devoted all his attention to merchandising and is building up a large and growing trade.

Mr. Watson was married on October 4, 1900, to Minnie Bell, daughter of Capt. James A. and Elizabeth Bell, an influential family of Vermillion county. Mrs. Watson was born in Newport, Indiana, December 31, 1872, and her death occurred on April 21, 1911. She was a member of the Methodist church and a prominent member of the Daughters of Rebekah. She was noted as a singer and was in great demand at entertainments and funerals. She was a woman of many winning characteristics and was popular with a very wide circle of friends.

Politically, Mr. Watson is a Republican and he was a member of the town board for four years, discharging his duties most faithfully. He belongs to the Methodist church, and fraternally he is a member of the Knights of Pythias, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen of America.

---

#### GEORGE H. LINEBARGER.

Among the native-born residents of Reserve township, Parke county, Indiana, who have reached a well merited success we must certainly include the name of George H. Linebarger. He is now at the threshold of his seventy-seventh year and his long life here has been fraught with much good, he having been prosperous in his agricultural calling. Few men are better known in this township and county than he, for here his long and active life has been spent and he has lived to see many wondrous changes take place in his home community, and has been no idle spectator either, having assisted in the general improvement of the same from his earlier years to the present time. Honesty and fair dealing have been his watchwords, and these twin virtues have been personified in his active life.

Mr. Linebarger was born in Reserve township, Parke county, Indiana, December 20, 1836. He is the son of Andrew and Elizabeth (Burton) Linebarger, the father a native of Lincoln county, North Carolina, from which place he came with his parents to Parke county, Indiana, when a boy



and here spent the rest of his life, becoming a successful farmer and citizen. The mother of the subject was a native of Reserve township, Parke county. For a fuller account of the Linebarger family the reader is directed to the sketch of Levi J. Linebarger, appearing on another page of this work.

George H. Linebarger was reared to manhood in his native township and here he has been content to spend his life. He attended the public schools in his native community, and when of proper age took up general farming and stock raising, which he has continued until recently.

Mr. Linebarger was married, first to Mary Wright, a native of Parke county, this state, and a daughter of Prior Wright and wife. By this first union one daughter, Julia Linebarger, was born, who became the wife of Conrad Farner. The wife and mother passed away in 1867, and the subject was subsequently married, in 1872, to Bettie Hocker, a native of Parke county, Indiana, and a daughter of Uriah Hocker and wife. To this last union have been born the following children: Mary was the eldest; Prof. John A., of Rockville, Indiana; Walter died when seventeen years of age; Ivah married Arthur Scott, and she is a missionary in South America; Melvina was next in order of birth; Alma died when thirteen years old.

Mr. Linebarger is an active member of the Methodist Episcopal church and a liberal supporter of the same, and was licensed to preach in 1869. He has done a great deal of good by his church work in this locality and his efforts in every way have been duly appreciated. He has also taken no small amount of interest in public affairs and has twice been a candidate for the Legislature on the Democratic ticket, but was defeated. He has long been interested in educational affairs, and his township is indebted to him for his praiseworthy efforts in this line, as well as in many others.

---

#### WORTH W. PORTER.

Indiana has many sons who have won fame and fortune in various ways, but of none has she more reason to be proud than those who have brought order out of chaos, and, unheeding hardships and danger, hewed farms from the forests and changed them to productive fields whence comes the sustenance of the people. The farmer of long ago opened the way to our present prosperity when he settled in the little hut in the wilderness. The labor and thought involved in obtaining a living from the land stimulated both mental and physical nature until he became self reliant and strong, willing to undergo

privation and hardship that good might result; and the many blessings which have come to us through modern investigation and foresight are but the outgrowth of the self-reliant and independent spirit of the pioneer. From such people came Worth W. Porter, farmer of Vermillion county, of which he is a worthy native son. He has endeavored to carry to completion the laudable work begun by his forebears.

Mr. Porter was born in Eugene township, Vermillion county, Indiana, June 11, 1857, of Scotch ancestry. He is a son of John W. and Hattie (Tipton) Porter, both born in the same locality as was the subject and here they grew to maturity, received such education as the old-time schools afforded, and here they were married and spent active lives in Vermillion county successfully engaged in farming. They each represented pioneer families. John Porter, the paternal grandfather, took up land from the government, and here he developed a good farm and became an influential citizen, becoming judge of this county in the early days. The father of the subject became one of the leading farmers and stock men in this locality. During the days of the Civil war he devoted his attention exclusively to dealing in live stock and everybody in this section sold their stock to him. At that time he sold hogs off the scales for eleven cents per pound. Politically, he was a Republican, but has never been active and never held office. He belongs to the Masonic order, the lodge at Cayuga, this county. His family consisted of seven children, only four of whom are now living. His death occurred on June 15, 1873, and his widow survived until July 8, 1888.

Worth W. Porter grew to manhood in his native community and was educated in the public schools of Eugene township, and early in life began assisting his father in the stock business, and later handled some stock on his own account. He remained with his father on the home farm, of which he now owns one hundred and fifty acres, which he has kept well improved and carefully cultivated and on which he carries on general farming and stock raising. His father built the present commodious and attractive home of the Porters at a cost of six thousand dollars, which was at that time one of the finest farm residences in this part of the state.

Mr. Porter was married in November, 1879, to Louisa F. Campbell, daughter of Hogan and Lucinda (Whitlock) Campbell, who were farmers of Illinois. Six children have been born to the subject and wife, namely: Jessie married Fred Nelson, a farmer of Canada; Jennie married Lee H. Shirk, who is engaged in the automobile business in Danville; Clarence is book-keeper for a steel plant in Colorado; Kyle M. lives on a farm in Eugene town-

ship, joining the home place; John W. is also farming near the homestead; Lee E. lives on the home place, which he operates with his father.

Mr. Porter is a member of the Presbyterian church, and in politics is a Republican, but has held no office nor been active.

---

### LEVI J. LINEBARGER.

Among the citizens of Parke county, Indiana, who have been successful in their chosen vocations and whose lives have been led along such worthy lines of endeavor that they have endeared themselves to their fellow citizens, thereby being eligible for representation in a volume of this nature, is the gentleman whose name appears above. Levi J. Linebarger, one of the successful farmers and stock men of Reserve township, has had the opportunity vouchsafed to few of us to spend his life at the old home, which fact has been much appreciated by him, as indeed it should be, for there is no place like home, as the world knows and as has been touchingly told in the familiar lines of the old song.

The birth of Mr. Linebarger occurred on the farm on which he now lives on April 29, 1844, and there he was reared to manhood and has always resided, helping to develop it when a boy, and during his manhood years he has so skillfully managed it that it has retained its original fertility of soil and has yielded him a comfortable income from year to year. He is the son of Andrew Linebarger, who was born in Lincoln county, North Carolina, in 1815, and when five years old he came with his parents on the long, tedious and somewhat hazardous overland journey from the old Tar state to Indiana, and in 1822 they settled in Reserve township, Parke county, beginning life here in typical pioneer fashion, the country being very little improved and neighbors being few and far remote. Here Andrew Linebarger, the father of the subject, spent his remaining years, dying at the remarkable age of ninety-two. The mother of the subject of this review was known in her maidenhood as Elizabeth Burton, a native of Reserve township, this county, and a daughter of Levi Burton, one of the early settlers of that township. Later in life Mr. Burton removed to Lee county, Iowa, where he died. The mother of the subject passed away at the age of twenty-six years, leaving a family of six small children, namely: George H., Mary Ann, William S., David, Levi J. (the subject), and Andrew Jackson. The father of the above named children married for his second wife Polly Warner, a native of

Reserve township, this county, and a daughter of Joel Warner, an early settler here. Ten children were born of this last marriage, namely: Lewis C., Joel, Samuel, Jacob, Joseph H., Elizabeth, Ida, Ludah, Emma and Alice.

As stated, Levi J. Linebarger has devoted his life to general farming and has long ranked with the leading tillers of the soil in his section of the country. He has devoted a great deal of attention to stock raising and dealing in stock, being one of the most successful and best known stock men in this part of the country. He is the owner of several valuable farms, and before the death of his father they were in partnership in farming and handling live stock, and were very successful.

Mr. Linebarger has always taken a great deal of interest in public affairs and has been ready to assist in all worthy movements for the general good of his county. He was elected county commissioner November 5, 1912, being one of the few Democrats elected to that office in many years.

---

### FRANK R. JOHNSON.

We rarely find two persons in every-day life who attribute their success in their different spheres to similar qualities. Hard work and plodding industry paved the way for one, good judgment and a keen sense of values for another, intuition and a well-balanced mind for the third. An admixture of some of the qualities mentioned above, emphasized by hard work, has been responsible for the success of Frank R. Johnson, the present popular and efficient county recorder of Vermillion county, in his battle for the spoils of victory, these winning attributes having descended from a sterling ancestry who played no inconspicuous part in the early history of Vermillion and neighboring counties, having done their share of the rough work necessary to redeem the fertile land from the wild state in which the first settlers found it, and it is to such as these that we of today are greatly indebted for the good farms, the thriving towns and the excellent schools and churches to be found in every community.

Mr. Johnson was born in Gessie, Vermillion county, Indiana, March 27, 1882, and he is a son of A. J. and Dessie (Johnson) Johnson, natives of Fountain and Vermillion counties, respectively. The father came from Fountain county in 1870 and located with his father about two miles north of Gessie. He has followed school teaching all his life and has been most successful, being one of the best known educators in this section of the state, his



services having always been in great demand. He is still living, making his home at Perrysville, Vermillion county. To A. J. Johnson and wife four children were born, namely: Lulu married George Miller, a merchant in Danville, Illinois; Frank R., of this review; George is a locomotive fireman and lives at Danville, Illinois; Edna B. married Dr. Ernest A. Dale, of Danville, Illinois; she is a talented musician, has been a successful instructor in music, and has traveled extensively. The father of the above named children is a member of the Baptist church, and politically he is a Democrat. He was superintendent of schools of Vermillion county for two terms, discharging the duties of this important office in a manner that reflected much credit upon himself and to the eminent satisfaction of all concerned. Fraternally, he is a Mason.

Frank R. Johnson, of this sketch, was reared and educated in his native county, later attending school at Valparaiso, Indiana. Following in his father's footsteps in a professional way, he began life for himself by teaching school for a period of ten years, during which time he gave eminent satisfaction to both pupil and patron. He began taking an interest in public affairs and in 1910 was elected county recorder of Vermillion county and is still incumbent of this office. He has discharged his duties in this connection with a fidelity, energy and honesty that has won the undivided praise of all concerned, irrespective of party alignment.

Mr. Johnson was married on July 10, 1910, to Etta Thomas, daughter of Jerome B. and Ruth Ann (Lindsey) Thomas, a highly respected family of Cayuga. This union has been blessed by the birth of one child, Frank Dale.

Politically, Mr. Johnson is a staunch Democrat and was clerk of the village of Cayuga for one year. Fraternally, he belongs to the Masonic order and the Knights of Pythias.

---

#### WALTER B. SHANNON.

Dependent very largely upon his own resources since early youth, Walter B. Shannon, one of the substantial and representative citizens of Bloomington, has attained no insignificant position, and though he has encountered many obstacles, he has pressed steadily on and has won an eminent degree of success, being today one of the foremost business men of Parke county, the proprietor of one of the most extensive poultry businesses in this and Vermillion county and being widely known in that field of endeavor.

Mr. Shannon was born December 23, 1865, on a farm in Putnam county.

Indiana, and there he assisted with the general work during the crop seasons, attending the neighboring schools in the winter time. He is the son of Ignatius and Martha (Carter) Shannon, both natives of Kentucky, the father having come to Indiana in 1835 and settled in Montgomery county. Soon after his marriage he entered mercantile pursuits at Parkersburg, in which he continued until 1875, then moved to Shannondale, Montgomery county, where he made his home until 1882, when he moved his store to the town of Raccoon, that county. When his wife died, on July 23, 1901, he sold out and spent most of his time in Bloomingdale with his son Walter B., of this sketch. But desiring to resume his old line of endeavor, he returned to Raccoon in 1909 and took up general merchandising again. He has, however, again abandoned the same and is living in Bloomingdale, being now advanced in years. He has been very successful as a business man and has a host of warm friends wherever he is known.

In 1882 Walter B. Shannon began his business life by clerking and driving huckster wagon for his father, continuing thus until 1888, when he took up a traveling position for Hutchinson Brothers, of Lafayette, during 1888 and 1889, giving that firm eminent satisfaction. But desiring to engage in business for himself, he returned to Raccoon and in April, 1899, he came to Bloomingdale and started a poultry establishment with Havens Brothers of Ladoga. They started on a small scale with Mr. Shannon acting as local manager, bookkeeper, etc., with a force of only three helpers. But the subject proved to be a man of progressive ideas and rare hustling qualities, so he soon had the business well established and now it has assumed very large proportions under his able management and close application, it being necessary to employ seven men and a stenographer to assist him in carrying on the business which he has built up. They have recently purchased the poultry business at Rockville, where five additional employes are required. They cover a very large territory, gathering poultry from all parts of the county of Parke, and Mr. Shannon has taught the people of this locality how profitable poultry raising really is and much more attention is being given this line of industry by the general farmer than ever before and this promises to be one of the leading industries of this and adjoining counties in a short time.

Mr. Shannon is regarded as one of the influential and useful men of Bloomingdale, assisting all movements looking toward the general upbuilding of the town and working unselfishly to help along all projects of industry that are presented.

On June 16, 1892, Mr. Shannon was married at Crawfordsville, Indiana, to Mary Ellen Owens, of Parkersburg, Indiana. She is the daughter of

Lazarus and Eliza Owens, natives of the South. In 1902 the subject and wife purchased a beautiful home in Bloomingdale, where they lived happily until the death of Mrs. Shannon, June 8, 1907. She was a woman of many commendable characteristics and was loved by a wide circle of friends. Mr. Shannon now resides in the hotel at Bloomingdale.

---

### HOMER B. AIKMAN.

Whether the elements of success in this life are innate attributes of the individual or whether they are quickened by a process of circumstantial development, it is impossible to clearly determine. Yet the study of a successful life, whatever the field of endeavor, is none the less interesting and profitable by reason of the existence of this same uncertainty. So much in excess of those of success are the records of failures and semi-failures, that one is constrained to attempt an analysis in either case and to determine the measure of causation in an approximate way. But in studying the life record of Homer B. Aikman, prominent young lawyer of Newport and scion of one of the distinguished and influential families of Vermillion county, members of which have played a conspicuous role in the local drama of civilization since the days of the Indian and wilderness, we find many qualities in his make-up that always gain definite success in any career if properly directed, as they have evidently been done in his case, he being a man of broad mind, strong will, keen discernment, sound judgment and perseverance, backed by an honesty of purpose.

Mr. Aikman was born in Helt township, Vermillion county, Indiana, February 21, 1883, and he is a son of Peter and Ellen (Brown) Aikman, the father being a brother of Judge B. S. Aikman, a complete sketch of whom and the Aikman ancestry appears on other pages of this work. Peter Aikman was educated in the country schools and in Asbury (now DePauw) University at Greencastle. He devoted his life successfully to general farming in this county, and for twelve years was postmaster at Dana, and still resides in that town. He was treasurer of Vermillion county for two terms. He is well known throughout the county and is highly respected for his life of industry, public service and honorable record as a man and citizen. His family consists of four children, namely: Iva married Ed. Foncannon, a farmer of Helt township; Grace married Stephen L. Jenks, a traveling salesman of Clinton, Indiana; Jennie married Dr. W. D. Gerrish, of Clinton,

Indiana; and Homer B., of this sketch, who is the youngest. Peter Aikman is a Republican, and he belongs to the Presbyterian church. Fraternally, he is a member of the Masonic order, the Knights of Pythias and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

Homer B. Aikman grew to manhood in his native county and was educated in the Dana high school and the law department of the University of Indiana, at Bloomington, from which institution he was graduated with the class of 1904, having made a splendid record for scholarship. Immediately thereafter he came to Newport and formed a partnership with Hon. B. S. Aikman, and they continued most successfully in the practice of law until the senior member of the firm was elected judge and went on the bench in November, 1910. The subject then formed a partnership with Charles N. Fultz, which still continues, this association being one of the most popular firms of young lawyers in western Indiana. Mr. Aikman has been very successful and is rapidly winning his way to the front rank of the local bar. He is a deep student and keeps fully abreast of the times in all that pertains to his profession. He has many of the natural prerequisites of the successful attorney, such as perseverance, keen foresight, self-control, courtesy and honesty.

Mr. Aikman was married on July 29, 1903, to Helen Shambaugh, a daughter of A. L. Shambaugh and wife, a prominent family of Lafayette, Indiana. To this union two children have been born, namely: Pete, now seven years old, and Mary Louise, who is one year old.

Mr. Aikman devotes his undivided attention to his fast-growing legal practice. He is a staunch Republican, and he belongs to the Knights of Pythias and the Kappa Sigma and the Phi Delta Phi, college fraternities. He is a young man of pleasing personality and is popular with all classes.

---

#### ROBERT IRVIN STONE.

One of the worthy native sons of Parke county who has not cared to follow the beckonings of the wanderlust spirit that tries to lure away all youths from their native haunts into some unknown region, is Robert Irvin Stone, he having been content to spend his life in this locality where his people have been well and favorably known since the pioneer epoch, and here he has labored to successful ends in his chosen field of endeavor.

Mr. Stone was born on a farm east of Rosedale, Parke county, Indiana,



October 18, 1864, his parents having been living at that time on what is commonly known at present as the Doty farm. He is a son of Cass M. and Laticia (Gott) Stone. The father was born in Trimble county, Kentucky, where he spent his boyhood and he was a young man when he came to Indiana, his father, Henry H. Stone, coming later on to this state and establishing his residence with his children, seven sons and daughters having been born to him, named as follows: Mrs. Julia Nicholas, who lives in Terre Haute, Indiana; Mrs. Jennie A. Stoner, of Boone county, Indiana; William H. is deceased; Robert Irvin, of this sketch; Cora A., who married a Mr. Griffin; Mrs. Mamie M. Johnson was next in order; and Clarence G., who was the youngest.

Robert I. Stone grew to manhood in Parke county and here he received a public school education, working on the home farm during his boyhood days, and when twenty-one years of age he started out for himself. He lived in Montgomery county, this state, for a period of three years, but this was not many miles from his birthplace. He worked on a farm there, and, saving his money, soon had a start, and is now owner of ninety-two acres of very productive and well improved land in Parke county, and is also interested in the place where his brother, Clarence Stone, lives. He has been very successful.

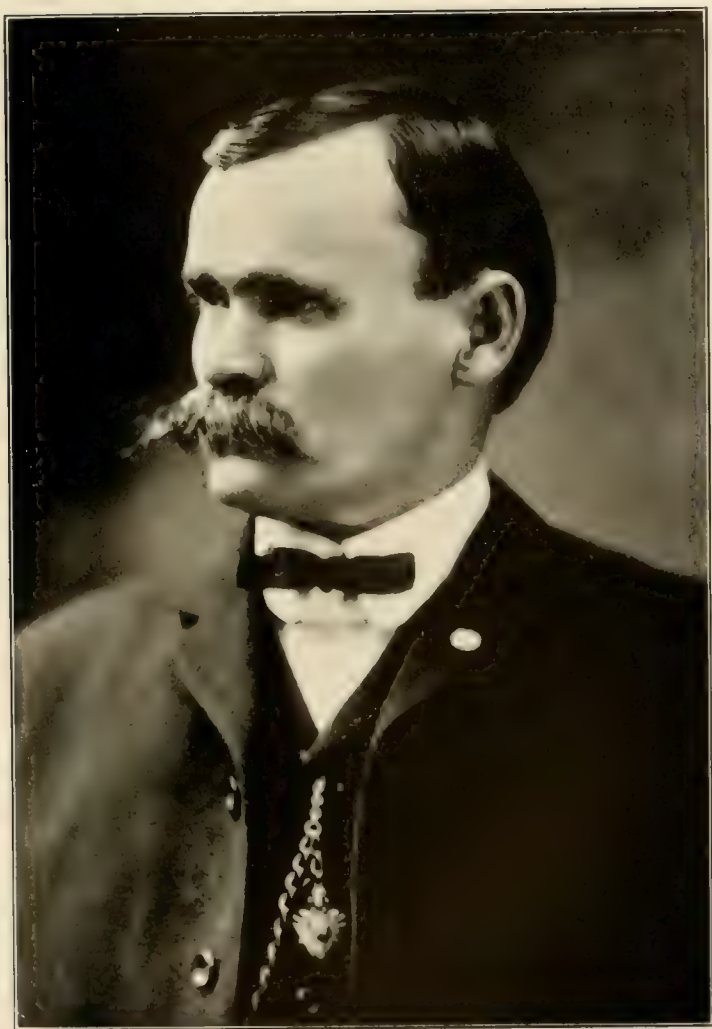
Mr. Stone was married on April 28, 1889, to Mamie M. Montgomery, and to this union two children were born: Homer, who married Hazel Grimes, a native of Parke county, and they have one child, Rachael; Herman, second child of the subject, is at home.

Mr. Stone is a Democrat, but is not active in public affairs. Religiously, the Stone family are Baptists.

---

#### GEORGE L. LANEY.

Among the strong and influential citizens of Parke county the record of whose lives have become an essential part of the history of this section of the far-famed Wabash country, the gentleman whose name appears above occupies a prominent place, and for many years has exerted a beneficial influence in the community in which he resides, being a man of progressive ideas and high ideals, public spirited and unselfish motives. Mr. Laney is a wide-awake, energetic man of affairs, of sound judgment and modern business principles, and he has always succeeded at whatever he undertook.



GEO. L. LANEY.



George L. Laney, who is the present able and popular incumbent of the office of county clerk of Parke county, was born on April 8, 1863, in McDonough county, Illinois. His parents were Levi D. and Mary (Devlin) Laney. The father was born in Lincoln county, Kentucky, February 14, 1814, and the mother was born in county Tyrone, Ireland, March 12, 1832. Levi D. Laney was a minister in the Baptist church, also a farmer, a good and influential man. He came to Parke county, Indiana, as early as 1829 and located on a farm in Florida township, section 29, with his father, James Laney. (The name was originally DeLaney.) They began life there in typical pioneer fashion, the country being practically a wilderness and neighbors few. Levi D. Laney remained in Florida township until 1852, when he removed to McDonough county, Illinois, where he lived until 1870, when he removed to Decatur county, Iowa, and lived there until July 23, 1872, when he came back to Indiana, locating again in Parke county, August 23, 1872, in the same section and township where he had previously lived, and there he remained until his death, February 22, 1892, at the age of seventy-eight years. The mother of the subject spent her early girlhood in Ireland, from which country she came to America in 1837 with her parents, who located at Fairfield, Vermont. She was educated in the convent at Montreal, Canada, from which she was graduated with the class of 1850. Her mother died in 1838 in Vermont, and her father came to Galesburg, McDonough county, Illinois, soon afterwards. Mrs. Laney was the youngest of five children, and she and Levi D. Laney were married in McDonough county on July 3, 1863. The death of the mother of the subject occurred on March 22, 1890. Besides the subject one other child, Andrew J. Laney, of Terre Haute, Indiana, was born to Levi D. Laney and wife.

George L. Laney grew to manhood on the home farm and he has spent the major portion of his life on a farm. He assisted his father with the general work about the place when a boy and received his early education in the country schools of Florida township, being nine years old when his parents came to Parke county. He later attended the Central Indiana Normal at Ladoga. He began life by teaching school, which he followed for a period of eight years in Florida township, in country schools, having the utmost success. He worked in the coal mines six years. All this time he was living on the small home farm and did more or less farming. He also worked as a builder and contractor later. From 1900 to 1904 he was traveling for the Meridian Life & Trust Company as state supervisor of agents, having started



in as a solicitor and being rapidly promoted. In 1900 he made the race for trustee of Florida township on the Democratic ticket, but was defeated by one vote, but the candidate for president was defeated by three hundred votes in that township. This would indicate Mr. Laney's popularity in his home community. In 1904 he was again nominated for trustee and was elected by seventy-eight votes. He served three years, ten months and twelve days, resigning to accept the office of county clerk, as he was nominated July 11, 1908, for that office and elected the following November by ninety-three plurality. The county is nominally Republican. In 1904 the Republicans carried Parke county by twelve hundred votes, in 1906, by seven hundred and sixty-three. Mr. Laney took office November 23, 1908. He refused to accept renomination, although he could have unquestionably received it and been elected a second time. As a public servant he has ever given the utmost satisfaction to all concerned, irrespective of party alignment.

Mr. Laney seems to have inherited from his ancestors many of the qualities that win, for they were people of exceptional traits of character on both sides of the house. James Laney, his paternal grandfather, was born January 7, 1792, in North Carolina, and the paternal grandmother, Elizabeth Davis, was born in Virginia in 1796. The great-grandfather on the paternal side was born in Ireland. John Devlin, the great-grandfather on the maternal side, was born in county Tyrone, Ireland, and the maternal great-grandmother, Katharine Allen, was also a native of county Tyrone. The mother of the subject was a prodigy in mathematics, having remarkable ability in this line and a good memory. She spoke four languages fluently, English, French, Italian and German.

Fraternally, George L. Laney, is a thirty-second-degree Mason, belonging to Parke Lodge No. 8 at Rockville, also the Royal Arch Masons, Chapter No. 8, Rockville, the Scottish Rite at Indianapolis and the Murat Temple, Ancient Arabic Order of Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, at Indianapolis. He was a member of a class of seventy-eight persons and at its organization was elected class treasurer, which position he still holds. He is a member of Rosedale Lodge No. 698, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, at Rosedale, Rockville Encampment No. 85, also belongs to the Rebekahs, Mary Lodge No. 35, of Rosedale. Also Rosedale Lodge No. 224, Knights of Pythias, and Bethel Temple No. 85, of Pythian Sisters, at Rosedale. He has long been prominent in fraternal circles.

Mr. Laney was married on October 9, 1888, to Roseanna Parker, daugh-

ter of Henry S. and Mary (Boatman) Parker, a highly respected family of Florida township, Parke county. To this union two children have been born, namely: Frances E., born October 26, 1889, and Calvin D., born February 17, 1891. The latter is engaged in the automobile business in Rockville. He is probably the youngest Mason in the state, surely the youngest in Parke county. He holds membership in Parke Lodge No. 8.

Mr. Laney is not a member of the church, but his family holds membership in the Christian church. He is a member of the Bible class of the Methodist Episcopal church and attends Sunday school.

The subject was one of the promoters of the new opera house at Rockville and secretary of the company. He is one of the most progressive men in Parke county and also one of the most popular, his popularity extending to all classes, for everyone has found him to be always straightforward, honest, sincere and dependable. He is a man who would go a long way and fight hard for his friends. There is nothing ostentatious about him, plain and unassuming in everything, of a fine morality and generous disposition. He wants to help every good cause for the community and everybody in need of help. He is a fine type of the successful, useful, progressive, self-made man and is eminently deserving in every way of the high esteem in which he is universally held wherever he is known.

---

### I. M. CASEBEER, M. D.

The writer of biography in the personal history of men engaged in the various affairs of every-day life, occasionally finds a subject whose record commands exceptional interest and admiration, and especially is this true when he has achieved more than ordinary success or made his influence felt as a leader of thought and benefactor of his kind. Dr. I. M. Casebeer, of Newport, is eminently of that class who earn the indisputable right to rank in the van of the army of progressive men and by reason of a strenuous career devoted to the good of his fellows, to the alleviation of their physical sufferings, he occupies a position of wide influence in the hearts and affections of the people, and his name is becoming a household word throughout Vermillion county.

Dr. Casebeer was born in Hillsdale, Vermillion county, Indiana, October 29, 1860, and he is a son of John Wesley and Martha (Rush) Casebeer, natives of Mansfield, Ohio, and of this county, respectively. The father spent

his life in farming, and he came to Vermillion county in 1848 and farmed land entered by the subject's maternal grandfather, Samuel Rush, when there were only four families living in this locality, and he followed farming here the rest of his life, becoming well known and influential among the pioneers. John Wesley Casebeer was born in 1831 and he is still living in the town of Hillsdale. His wife passed away on March 24, 1912, at the age of seventy-two years and eleven days. They were the parents of the following children: Samuel died of sunstroke when eighteen years old; Alvin B., who is farming in Vermillion county; Ella, who married George W. James, of Hillsdale, died in 1891; John Wesley, Jr., died March 30, 1910; Dana V. died in infancy; I. M., subject of this review.

The father of the above named children is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and has been class leader for forty years and a pillar in the local congregation. He is a Democrat and Prohibitionist. He was married for a period of fifty-seven years, and it must stand to his credit to say that he never took a drink of intoxicating liquor in his life.

Dr. Casebeer was educated in the common schools of his native locality, and spent one year in the Central Indiana Normal School, then three years in DePauw University. He then entered Rush Medical College in Chicago in 1890 and was graduated from that institution in 1893 with the degree of Doctor of Medicine. He began practicing his profession at Hillsdale and soon had an excellent start, remaining there until 1899, when he established his office at Mentone and was there until the spring of 1903, and since then he has been in the practice at Newport. He has a large and rapidly growing patronage and has been most successful as a general practitioner. He has remained a student of all that pertains to his profession, and has kept abreast of the times in every respect. He stands high among his professional brethren in western Indiana.

Dr. Casebeer was married on October 31, 1893, to Daisy A. Smith, daughter of John W. Smith, well known attorney-at-law at Rochester, Indiana, and to this union two children have been born, Paul Bevin and John Smith.

Dr. Casebeer is a loyal Republican and a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. He is at this writing health officer of Newport, is president of the town board and trustee, and he was appointed United States examining surgeon in 1898, which position he held until he left the county, and upon his return was re-appointed in 1903. He has given eminent satisfaction as a public servant. He is medical examiner for all the old-line insurance companies in this locality. Fraternally, he is a member of the Knights of

Pythias and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He is a member of the Vigo County Medical Society, the Indiana State Medical Society, the Fifth District Indiana Medical Society, and the Esculapians. The Doctor has been very successful in a financial way, and he is the owner of an excellent farm of sixty-five acres on which are located some valuable shale beds.

---

### JAMES W. ADAMS.

One of the influential men of affairs in Parke county, both in business and civic circles, is James W. Adams, the well known president and manager of the Rosedale Creamery Company, whose indomitable courage, persistent and aggressive efforts and whose excellent management have brought to him the prosperity which is to-day his. He has ever been ready to do what he could in pushing forward the wheels of progress and advancing commercial prosperity in this vicinity, and his career, both public and private, has been one worthy of the high esteem and praise which those who know him so freely accord.

Mr. Adams was born November 24, 1853, in Raccoon township, Parke county, Indiana, on a farm, and he is a son of James W. and Minerva (Snow) Adams. The father was a well educated man, having been a graduate of De Pauw University, and he devoted his life to school teaching and farming, making a success of each. He was also a native of Parke county, being a son of Samuel and —— (McGinnis) Adams, who were among the early settlers of this county, and here they spent their lives engaged in farming; thus the Adams family has been well known in this locality during all its development, in which they took a leading part.

James W. Adams, of this sketch, grew to manhood on the home farm, and he received his early education in the common schools of his native county. He prepared for college, but never took a collegiate course. He was twenty-one years old when he left his step-father and went out into the world to make his own fortune, working at farm work for some time. He learned harness-making in his youth, also carpentering, and he worked at both for many years, then took up farming again and became the owner of a fine farm north of Rosedale in Florida township, which consists of one hundred and twenty acres, well improved and very productive. This he now rents, devoting his attention exclusively to the large creamery of which he is the head and which does a very extensive business, its products being in great



demand owing to their superior quality. Fraternally, he belongs to the Knights of Pythias, and he is a member and trustee of the Methodist church.

Mr. Adams was married to Hannah Myer, of Indianapolis, and they have three children: Lottie, a high school graduate, married Charles Rukes; Fred E. married Anna Dean, of Preble county, Ohio; Gilbert E. is in Purdue University, taking the course in electric engineering.

---

### THOMAS BINGHAM.

It may be true, as once stated, that some of the countries of Europe have not sent their best citizens to America, that those who belonged to the thriftiest and best classes have remained in their own native lands. This may be true of some nations, but it is certainly not true of Scotland, for all will agree that from the earlier years of our national history Scotchmen of the very best type have been coming to our shores and here they have benefited alike themselves and us. And we have ever welcomed them, for they are, almost without exception, law-abiding, thrifty and honorable and they do well in this land of the free. There are many of this desirable race in the locality of which this volume treats. One to whom we desire to call especial attention is Thomas Bingham, the able and popular superintendent of mines for the Parke County Coal Company. He was born in Scotland on May 13, 1860, and he is a son of Thomas and Sarah (Holden) Bingham, both natives of Scotland, where they grew up and were married, and there Thomas Bingham followed the mines, never leaving his native country. He met with an accident which cost him his life, after which the family came to America, the widow bringing her three children here, passed the residue of her days in the United States, dying some time ago. The family consisted of May, David and Thomas the subject, who was about five years old when he crossed the Atlantic to our shores.

The Bingham family located at Brazil, Indiana, and there Thomas grew to manhood and was educated in the common schools, though his education was interrupted, for he was compelled to help support his mother and the rest of the family and he went into the mines when only ten years of age, he having been a thrifty youngster. He started as a trapper boy and, being industrious and learning rapidly, he was promoted from time to time, always giving his employers satisfaction. Finally he came to Parke county, Indiana, and became superintendent for the Parke County Coal Company, which posi-

tion he has filled to the present time with much credit to himself and satisfaction to all.

Mr. Bingham was married on October 21, 1880, to Miriah Johnston, from Pennsylvania, and to this union three children were born, namely: Sallie, Anna and Nellie, the last named being deceased.

Fraternally, Mr. Bingham belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Improved Order of Red Men.

---

#### E. E. NEEL.

It cannot be other than interesting to note in the series of personal sketches appearing in this biographical compendium the varying conditions that have compassed those whose careers are outlined, and an effort has been made in each case to throw well focused light on the individuality and to bring into proper perspective the scheme of each representative character. Each man who strives to fulfill his part in connection with human life and human activities is deserving of recognition, whatever may be or have been the field of his endeavor, and it is the function of the works of this nature to perpetuate for future generations an authentic record concerning those represented in its pages, and the value of such publication is certain to be cumulative for all time to come, showing forth the individual and specific accomplishments of which generic history is ever engendered. The record of such a man as he whose name initiates this review is well worthy of preservation, for it shows what may be accomplished early in life if one has the courage, grit, perseverance and honesty of purpose to press forward despite obstacles.

E. E. Neel, of Newport, one of the most successful and popular attorneys-at-law in Vermillion and Parke counties, was born near Gessie, Highland township, Vermillion county, Indiana, November 15, 1870. He is a son of John W. and Mary Jane (Jackson) Neel, natives of Virginia, where they spent their earlier years. From that state John W. Neel moved with his parents to Kentucky when a boy and there received his education. Louis Jackson, the subject's maternal grandfather, came to this country from Virginia, bought land in Highland township and here followed farming the rest of his life, becoming well known throughout Vermillion county. The paternal grandfather, William Neel, died in Kentucky, where he had spent the latter years of his life. John W. Neel, father of the subject removed from the old home in the Blue Grass state in 1836, coming to Vermillion county, Indiana,

and locating in Eugene township, where for some time he worked on the flat boats on the Wabash river and also at pork packing. When twenty-five years of age he began farming, which vocation he followed here with success the rest of his life. He married, first, Elizabeth Sanders, and to them the following children were born: Lucy, deceased; Nettie, deceased, and James, who is farming in Kansas. The wife and mother passed away in early life, and John W. Neel was then married to Mary Jane Jackson, who bore him the following children: George Milton, who is engaged in the well drilling business; Charles S. and Albert G., who have followed various lines of work in this locality; William S. is a school teacher and farmer; Francis Marion died in infancy; E. E., subject of this sketch; Clara E. married Charles Peck, a farmer; Belle married William H. Alderson, a farmer. The death of the father, John W. Neel, occurred in 1892, at the age of sixty-seven years. The mother, who was born in 1834, and who is a devout Methodist, is still living, being now seventy-eight years old.

E. E. Neel worked on a farm in his boyhood until he was sixteen years old, then attended high school at Perrysville. In 1887 he entered the Danville Normal School, remaining two years, then spent one year in the State Normal School at Terre Haute, and one year at Valparaiso, Indiana, in the well known institution there. He then took up the study of law, entering the University of Indiana at Bloomington, and was graduated from the law department, with the degree of Bachelor of Laws, in 1900. He had made an excellent record for scholarship in all the above named institutions. During the time that he was obtaining his education he taught school from time to time. Since June 27, 1900, he has been successfully engaged in the practice of his profession at Newport, enjoying a large and constantly growing clientele, and taking a prominent part in the important cases in the local courts since that time. He is a profound student and keeps fully abreast of the times in all that pertains to his chosen vocation.

Mr. Neel was married on April 16, 1905, to Ola Sager, daughter of Isaac M. and Lelia (DeVoss) Sager, a highly respected family. Mrs. Neel is well educated.

While Mr. Neel devotes all his attention to his extensive legal practice, he is nevertheless active in local affairs pertaining to the betterment of his town and county. He is a Republican in politics, is a member of the Methodist church and a Sunday school teacher. Fraternally, he belongs to the Masonic order.

## JAMES A. CHANEY.

Among those who came to Parke county, Indiana, when the country was in its primitive wildness, infested by animals, numerous and ferocious, and when had scarcely disappeared tribes of scarcely less wild and more savage red men, when neighbors were few and far remote, and when roads were mere rails and no streams were bridged, was the venerable farmer, James A. Chaney, one of the few remaining links which connects that remote period with the present. He has passed his eighty-third milestone, and most of his long years have been spent in this county, during which time he has taken a part in the great transformation here, for he and his parents were among the earliest settlers, and the members of this family have done their full share in the work of progress here. And they, together with the other actors in the great drama which witnessed the passing of the old and the introduction of the new conditions in which are now the fine farms and thriving towns of this county, are deserving of every consideration. We of today cannot pay such sterling characters too great a meed of praise, in view of the sacrifices they made in order that their descendants and others of a later day should enjoy the blessings of life, only a few of which they were permitted to have. Therefore, we are glad to give the subject of this sketch a conspicuous position in the present volume along with other deserving men who have played well their parts in the history of Parke and Vermillion counties.

James A. Chaney was born September 1, 1829, in Jefferson county, Ohio, near the town of Smithfield. He is a son of William Chaney and wife. The father was born in Maryland, from which state he came to Ohio in early Indian times, finally coming on to Parke county, Indiana, where he took up land from the government, and here began life in typical pioneer fashion, succeeding by hard work in establishing a comfortable home here. His family consisted of five children, of whom James A., of this sketch, was the oldest. All these children are still living.

James A. Chaney grew to manhood on the home farm and, being the son of a pioneer who had a farm to carve from the wilderness, he had plenty to do as soon as he was old enough. He had a meager schooling in the old-time schools, taught in log cabins, and when a young man he started in life by farming forty acres. He worked hard, was economical and managed well and success beyond that of the average farmer has attended his efforts and today he is one of the largest land owners and one of the most substantial farmers in Parke county, his finely improved and valuable place consisting of



nearly six hundred acres of land, most of it located on the Clinton and Rosedale road. His is thus one of the most valuable and desirable farms in the county. Here he has for many years carried on general farming and stock raising on an extensive scale, and he has an attractive home and numerous and convenient outbuildings. He has always handled an excellent grade of live stock, and no small part of his handsome competency has been derived from this source. He is a good judge of all kinds of stock, and especially is a lover of good horses.

Mr. Chaney was married when twenty-six years of age to Elizabeth Skearse, and to this union the following children were born: James, who lives at Rosedale; William is assisting in operating the subject's farm; Fred was next in order; Amanda, Anna and Alice were the three daughters.

Mr. Chaney was again married, in November, 1880, to Margaret B. Clark, and to this union two children were born: Omer is married and has three children; Beulah, Virgil and Vivian. Homer, the second child, is married, but has no children. Mr. Chaney's second wife had two children by a former marriage, namely: Howard W. Clark, who is married and has four children, Oscar, Eva, Bertha and George; Mary C. Clark is deceased.

Mr. Chaney has been interested in all the affairs of his township and county. He was for some time supervisor of his township, but he has never been a seeker for public honors, preferring to devote his attention to his extensive business affairs. He and his family are active and prominent in church circles and liberal supporters of church work.

---

#### LEONIDAS E. OVERPECK.

A most creditable representative of the Overpeck family and one of the best known of the present generation is Leonidas E. Overpeck, one of the leading farmers and stock raisers of Florida township, Parke county, and he is a man who has so ordered his life as to keep untarnished the bright escutcheon of the family name and he has therefore always had the undivided respect of all who have known him.

Mr. Overpeck was born December 10, 1859, in Florida township, this county, and he is a son of George and Harriet (Evans) Overpeck. The father, who devoted his life to farming, came from Trimble county, Kentucky, in an early day and located the permanent home of family in Parke county, Indiana.

Leonidas E. Overpeck grew to manhood in his native township and there in the rural schools he received his education. Early in life he took up farming for a livelihood and this he has continued with ever-increasing success to the present time. During the time that he was attending the public schools he worked on the home farm, and at that period he also attended a commercial college in Terre Haute. After his marriage he commenced farming for himself. He is now the owner of one of the choicest and most productive farms in his township, consisting of three hundred and twenty acres, which he brought up to a high state of cultivation and improvement and on which he carries on general farming and stock raising, always handling a good grade of live stock. He has a pleasant home and numerous convenient outbuildings. He understands well the proper rotation of crops and the care of the soil, and while he has never attended a college of agriculture he farms scientifically, for he is a close observer and keeps well posted on agricultural and horticultural topics, besides making experiments of his own, and as a result his annual income is always satisfactory.

Mr. Overpeck was married to Mary B. McGilvrey, a native of Parke county, where she grew to womanhood and received her education. To this union have been born nine children, named in order of birth as follows: Gilbert, Edith, Garnet, John, Mamie, Helen, Frances, Lowell and Ezra.

Mr. Overpeck is a member of the Christian church, and politically, he is a Democrat, but has never been a seeker after office.

---

#### J. A. FISHER.

The biographies of the representative men of a county bring to light many hidden treasures of mind, character and courage, well calculated to arouse the pride of their family and of the community, and it is a source of regret that the people are not more familiar with the personal history of such men, in the ranks of whom may be found tillers of the soil, mechanics, merchants, professional men, business men and those of varied vocations. J. A. Fisher, well known citizen of the village of Coxville, Parke county, is one of the creditable representatives of the business element of this locality and as such has made his influence felt here, earning a name for enterprise, integrity and public spirit.

Mr. Fisher was born May 16, 1873, on the old Fisher farm in Adams township, this county, and is a son of Fletcher and Matilda (Keltner) Fisher,

one of the prominent pioneer families of this county who are spending their lives successfully engaged in agricultural pursuits.

J. A. Fisher grew to manhood on the home farm and there he worked when a boy during the crop season, attending the public schools in the winter time, remaining on the farm until he was sixteen years of age, when his father went into the merchandise business, the son then working in the store, which the subject took over when the father returned to farming, and he has continued merchandising with ever-increasing success. To-day his general store in Coxville is a very busy place, his many customers coming, some of them, from remote parts of the county, for here they always have a large and modern stock of goods to select from and receive uniform courtesy of treatment. He has been very successful in his chosen line of endeavor, and he not only owns his store, but some valuable property in Coxville, including a pleasant residence, neatly kept and well furnished, which is presided over in a praiseworthy manner by a lady who was known in her maidenhood as Abbie M. Lowe, daughter of James and Rhoda (Ross) Lowe, and who was married to Mr. Fisher on October 30, 1895.

To the subject and wife have been born five children, named in order of birth as follows: Hazel, Jake, Jr., Gladys, Frank and Solon.

Fraternally, Mr. Fisher belongs to the Improved Order of Red Men, Tribe No. 187, at Rosedale. He and his family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Mr. Fisher is the leading citizen of Coxville, in that he has done more than any other for the upbuilding and general good of the place.

---

### JAMES TYRE.

A splendid young business man of the vicinity of Coxville, Indiana, is James Tyre, general farmer and engineer of the Acme Glass Sand Company. He has shown himself capable of handling responsible positions and creditably discharging the duties of the same, for he has always been a man of industry and a close observer, never letting the grass grow under his feet and never failing to keep a watch-out for new methods and ideas, for he is by nature progressive.

Mr. Tyre was born on June 22, 1878, in Washington county, Kentucky, and is a son of Thomas and Amene (Wood) Tyre. The father, who was born and reared in Kentucky, was educated in the common schools, and early

in life he took up farming for a vocation, which he continued to follow with success.

Six children were born to Thomas Tyre and wife, namely: James, subject of this sketch, was the eldest; George; Athma; John, who lives in Parke county with his brother; Nettie is engaged in business, and Amina was the youngest.

James Tyre grew to manhood on his father's farm in the Blue Grass state, and there he worked when a boy, attending the public schools during the winter months. He came to Indiana when young and finished his education here. At an early age he began working in the power house in Louisville, where he rendered satisfactory service. He then began learning the engineer's profession. He secured some good text books which he studied carefully, often until late into the night, until he learned about all he could in that manner, and, being by nature a man who observed things, he began picking up details, bit by bit, wherever he could, until he became equipped to hold positions as engineer, and he is now rated as one of the most thoroughly equipped and trustworthy men in his line in this section of the state, and is giving his employers satisfaction in every respect.

Mr. Tyre was married in February, 1895, to Belle Daniels, daughter of Charles Daniels and wife, a highly respected family of this locality, where Mrs. Tyre was reared to womanhood and where she received her education. This union has resulted in the birth of four children, namely: Pearl, Richard, Edward and Albert. Mr. Tyre lives in the village of Coxville.

---

#### D. B. McMULLEN.

No one, whether interested in farming or not, could look over the finely improved and well located farm of D. B. McMullen, in the vicinity of Rosedale, Parke county, and not be forced to admit that the panorama is pleasing for his is one of the "banner farms" of the locality of which this volume treats. There are, perhaps, none among his friends and acquaintances who envy Mr. McMullen the success which his honest efforts and steady onward plodding have brought him, for he has been a man of indomitable industry and has managed well, winning success above the average husbandman.

Mr. McMullen was born on March 22, 1857, on the farm on which he still lives, and he is a son of Dan and Elizabeth (Houck) McMullen. The father was born on the Fort Harrison prairie, Vigo county, Indiana. He



lived in this section of the middle West during the days when Indians still roamed the country, during the log-rolling period of our history, when log cabins were the rule and not the exception, and he was well known and highly respected among the pioneers. His family consisted of four children, two living: D. B., of this sketch, and Mrs. Sarah Thorpe, the other two having passed away long ago.

D. B. McMullen was reared on the farm and there he worked when of proper age, attending school at the Forks of Creek school house. Upon reaching manhood Mr. McMullen was married to Lou G. Biggs, to which union one child was born, Eddie, who is living at home. The subject was married a second time, his last wife being Nettie Simmons, whose father devoted his life to general farming, being one of the leaders as a farmer and stock man in his community and he always bore an excellent reputation. To this last union one child was born, Forrest.

Mr. McMullen has kept the home place, which consists of three hundred and fifty acres, well improved and carefully cultivated so that it has not depreciated in value or lost any of its original strength of soil. He has a pleasant home, and everything around it denotes good management and thrift. Fraternally, he belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and religiously, he is a member of the Baptist church.

---

### HARRY MOORE.

Just now in the prime of vigorous manhood, having accomplished much that merits the praise of his fellow men and having gained a firm standing in the affections of his people of Clinton and vicinity, the future to such a man as Harry Moore, mine boss of the Lyford mine, must necessarily be replete with honor and success. He is a man who has become well posted on current events and takes much interest in public affairs, always ready to assist in any way in the bettering of conditions for the working man.

Mr. Moore was born on March 5, 1873, near Coshocton, Ohio, and he is a son of Richard and Anna (Snyder) Moore. The father was brought up in the mines which he followed all his life and was a mine boss at the time of his death. Four children were born to Richard Moore and wife, named in order of birth as follows: John, Mary, Malinda, and Harry, of this review.

Harry Moore is a self-made man and is deserving of a great deal of credit for what he has accomplished. His early schooling was meager, for he

had to go into the mines when but a boy, but he has educated himself in later years. He has followed the mines all his life, having worked in and around them for the past twenty-eight years, and, being a keen observer, industrious and conscientious, he has learned every phase of the mining business, and has given satisfaction in the various positions with which he has been entrusted. As mine boss of the Lyford mine near Clinton, Indiana, he has shown himself to be a master at this kind of work, giving eminent satisfaction to his employers.

Mr. Moore was married in 1907 to Nema Knight, daughter of Harvey and Ella Knight, who live in the city of Clinton, where Mrs. Moore grew to womanhood and was educated. To this union three children have been born, namely: Ernest, Bernice and Max.

Fraternally, Mr. Moore belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Knights of Pythias. The Moore family affiliate with the Methodist Episcopal church. Politically, Mr. Moore is independent.

---

### J. R. HEATON.

From rugged Tennessee came J. R. Heaton, a successful Parke county farmer—successful because he has inherited many of the characteristics of the sterling people of that old state under Dixie skies, the traits that never fail to win when rightly applied, as his have evidently been, for he started out in life practically unaided and by hard work and persistent endeavor has won a comfortable home and a valuable farm.

Mr. Heaton was born in Jefferson county, Tennessee, May 12, 1851, and is a son of William C. and Eliza (Andress) Heaton. The father was a native of New Jersey, where he spent his early boyhood, but left there in early life, coming to Tennessee, where he spent a great many of his years. During the Civil war he was drafted in the Confederate army, but deserted and went back to New Jersey, where he spent the rest of his life. His family consisted of six children, namely: Mary D., John, Harriet, Sarah, J. R. (the subject), and William C., Jr.

J. R. Heaton received his education in the public schools, and when a boy he accompanied an uncle to Missouri, where he finished his schooling. When a young man he learned the carpenter's trade in Parke county, Indiana, and has been a successful contractor since, becoming proficient in this trade, having built a large number of the best buildings in this locality which

will long stand as monuments to his skill and honesty as a builder. However, he has always been more or less engaged in farming, having purchased land here many years ago, and is one of our leading general farmers and stock raisers, being the owner of a well improved and productive farm of one hundred and sixty acres in this county. He has one of the best homes in the township and numerous substantial outbuildings.

Mr. Heaton was married on July 15, 1880, to Elizabeth Lewis, and to this union nine children have been born, namely: W. A. married Fay Weston and lives in Clinton; S. A. married Winnie Sproat, and has one child, Ruby; Frank A. is married to Mary Champion, and they have one child, Raphael; Harvey married Jennie Ralsted, and they have one child, Claud K.; Edward married Bertha Spray, and they have two children, Robert L. and Dorothy M.; John Lorenz is living at home; Elbert L. is single and Henry H. and Mary E. are attending school.

Politically, Mr. Heaton is a Prohibitionist and so casts his vote, and assists in the furtherance of the work against the liquor traffic whenever occasion presents itself. The Heaton family affiliate with the Methodist Episcopal church.

---

### JOHN H. MONTGOMERY.

In studying the interesting life histories of many of the better class of men, and the ones of unquestioned merit and honor, it will be found that they have been compelled, very largely, to map out their own career and furnish their own motive force in scaling the heights of success, and it is of such a one that the biographer is pleased to write in the following paragraphs.

John H. Montgomery, one of the leading farmers of Florida township, Parke county, was born in that township on March 10, 1863, on the old Montgomery homestead, and is a son of James H. and Rachael (Barnes) Montgomery. The father was born in Kentucky, from which state he came to Parke county, Indiana, with his father, Caleb Montgomery, who settled in the village of Catlin. James H. Montgomery was one of a family of five children, he having grown to manhood in Kentucky and was educated there, being twenty-one years old when he came to this county. He married soon after coming here and reared a family of seven children, namely: Mrs. Neoma Gates, Mrs. Margaret Pendegast, Mrs. Mary Hawkins, John H. of

this sketch, Mrs. Minnie Stone, Smith Montgomery and Mrs. Mason Ackett. John H. Montgomery of this sketch has always worked on a farm. When a boy he assisted his father, and he received a common school education. When twenty years old he was married and then started in life for himself, farming, and by hard work and good management forged to the front, having begun housekeeping when he was first married in an old log house. He is now the owner of two hundred and fifty-eight acres on the Yankee Street road, or the Mecca and Rosedale road, his place being known as the Raccoon Valley farm, which is rated as one of the best in every respect in Florida township. He has a good home and convenient outbuildings and keeps a splendid grade of live stock.

Mr. Montgomery married Laura B. Johnson, now deceased, and to this union three children were born, Ray, who married Evelyn Loustutter, is a minister in the Christian church; Jesse B. and Louise.

Mr. Montgomery was married a second time, his last wife being Luella Lewis, daughter of Charles Lewis, a shoemaker in Terre Haute, Indiana. To this last union seven children were born, namely: Harry, who teaches at the Daily school in Parke county; Joseph, Rachael, Florence, Henry, Russell and Ralph. Joseph and Rachael are in high school. Mr. Montgomery belongs to the Baptist church and, politically, he is a Democrat.

---

#### HERMAN H. JACOBS.

Although a young man, Herman H. Jacobs, manager of the Baugh farm in Parke county, has achieved a definite degree of success and seems to be the possessor of attributes that cannot well fail in the usual lines of human endeavor, especially as related to husbandry. He is not only energetic and painstaking, but is a man who has proven himself to be a keen observer and who takes no chances, recklessness being foreign to his nature, it being his aim always to know he is right and then go ahead, according to the old adage, and this has been one of the contributing causes of his success in his chosen life work.

Mr. Jacobs was born November 25, 1882, in Rosedale, Parke county, Indiana, and he has been content to spend his life in his native locality. He is a son of William and Susan (Myers) Jacobs. The father was for many years a well known merchant in Rosedale, and was very successful, having



built up a large trade with the town and surrounding country, and, dealing courteously and honestly with all with whom he came into contact, he had the confidence of every one who knew him. After his death the mother of the subject ran the store for a while, then sold out. She came from Middletown, Indiana, and is a daughter of Reuben and Elizabeth Myers, a highly respected family of that locality.

Four children were born to William Jacobs and wife, named in order of birth as follows: Clint, who lives in Rosedale; Charles is residing in Clinton, Vermillion county; Pearlie lives in Indianapolis, and Herman H., of this review.

Herman H. Jacobs grew to manhood in his native community and he received a good practical education in the common schools of Rosedale. After leaving school he began life in the mines, which he followed for some time, then took up farming, which he has continued successfully to the present time.

Mr. Jacobs was married on July 3, 1912, to Ethel Baugh, daughter of one of the leading farmers of Parke county, and here she grew to womanhood and was educated in the common schools. Fraternally, Mr. Jacobs is a member of the Masonic order and the Knights of Pythias.

---

#### OMER CHANEY.

The subject of this sketch is one of those men who has met with success along the line of his chosen calling and he is today one of the leading agriculturists and stock raisers of his township. A man of fine personal traits, he is highly regarded by all who know him, and he is counted one of the most progressive and worthy men of affairs and public-spirited citizens of the locality of which this volume treats.

Omer Chaney, owner of about two hundred acres of productive and finely improved land on the Chaney road about five miles from Clinton, Indiana, was born August 16, 1881, on the old Chaney homestead, and he is a son of James and Margaret (Adams) Chaney, one of the best known families in the county, a complete sketch of whom appears on another page of this work.

Omer Chaney grew to manhood in his native locality and was educated in the common schools, working on the farm during the summer months of his school period. When twenty-one years of age he commenced renting land of his father and he soon had a start in that way, and his success as a general farmer has been continuous and he today, though yet but a young

man, is regarded as one of our best general farmers. He keeps his land well tilled, properly rotates his crops and keeps a good grade of live stock.

When twenty-one years old Mr. Chaney was united in marriage to Dolly Lowe, daughter of Jim and Rhoda (Ross) Lowe, a highly respected family of this locality, where they have long maintained their home and where Mrs. Chaney grew to womanhood and where she received her education. Three children have been born to Mr. Chaney and wife, named in order of birth as follows: Beulah, Virgil and Vivian. Mr. Chaney affiliates with the Methodist Episcopal church.

---

#### JAMES M. SNOW.

The list of names of the enterprising and public-spirited citizens of Parke county who have been successful in their chosen vocations would be lacking should the name of James M. Snow be omitted. He has made an exhaustive study of general agriculture and is well qualified in every respect for his present line of work, for he believes in progress and keeps well informed on the current problems of the day, especially as they pertain to his line of work.

Mr. Snow was born December 30, 1857, in Parke county, and is a son of Benjamin and Elvira (Bagwell) Snow, the father having been a native of Parke county, the son of one of the sterling pioneer families and here he grew to manhood when the country roundabout was little developed and settlers were few and here he became well known as an extensive farmer. He was always interested in all public work and assisted in the same. He is now deceased, but his widow is still living in this county, she being now advanced in years, and she, too, is a representative of a fine old family.

James M. Snow grew to manhood on the home farm and there he made himself generally useful when a boy, learning agriculture from an able preceptor, his father, who he continued to assist during the crop seasons. In the winter months he attended the common schools until he received a very practical education, which has of later years been supplemented by home reading and practical experience. Mr. Snow has never cared to be the owner of a farm, though he likes to operate and control farming land, and he is now farming with a great degree of success five hundred acres in Parke county, which he has placed under a fine state of cultivation, and he is also superintendent of the Glass Acme Sand Company, which does a very extensive business throughout this part of the state.

Mr. Snow was married in October, 1886, to Mary E. Bryant and to this union six children have been born, namely: Robert, who married Melissa Chaney; Herschel was next in order; Edith is the wife of Rufus Daniels; Roy, Cecil and Hazel are in school.

Fraternally, Mr. Snow belongs to the Knights of Pythias, being trustee of the local lodge; he also holds membership with the Modern Woodmen, being manager of the local camp, and he has been active and prominent in both for some time. Politically, he is a Republican and wields considerable influence locally, being more or less active in the ranks.

---

### VOORHEES HUXFORD.

The prosperity and substantial welfare of a town or community are in a large measure due to the enterprise and wise foresight of its business men. It is progressive, wide-awake men of affairs that make the real history of a community, and their influence in shaping and directing its varied interests is difficult to estimate. Voorhees Huxford, for a number of years one of the alert and industrious men of affairs of Parke county, is one of the enterprising spirits to whom is due the recent substantial improvements of his section of the county, whose interests he has ever had at heart. With a mind capable of planning, he combines a will strong enough to execute his well-formulated purposes, and his great energy, keen discrimination and perseverance have resulted in material success as a farmer, general contractor and builder of gravel roads.

Mr. Huxford was born on August 27, 1862, on the old Huxford homestead in Parke county, Indiana, and is a son of John and Matilda (Driver) Huxford, one of our sterling early families who became well known in Parke county.

Voorhees Huxford grew to manhood in his native township and there received his education in the common schools. When twenty-one years of age his father started him out as a farmer, and the lad forged gradually ahead until he became one of the leading farmers of his community. When crops were poor he took up carpentering, also learned the cement business, at which he worked from time to time, and while he has made general farming his main life work he has been very successful in a financial way as a contractor and builder of houses and gravel roads, his work always giving eminent satisfaction, for it has ever been not only well but honestly done, so

that he enjoys the confidence of the people, and his services are in constant demand. His fine farm consists of one hundred acres, which he has put under excellent improvements and a high state of cultivation. He is also the owner of a fine farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Texas, a valuable lot in Ashdown, Arkansas, and other property, all of which he has made by his own indomitable efforts. He has made frequent trips, traveling extensively in Nebraska, Texas, Arkansas and other states, and, being by nature a keen observer, he has been greatly benefited by what he has seen; but his principal interests have remained in Parke county, he having made but one move in his life, and that was in 1882, when he moved from a log cabin into his present attractive and commodious dwelling which he built himself and which is one of the coziest homes in the township, modern in every detail.

Mr. Huxford was married in 1882 to Elizabeth Florence Nevins, daughter of Harry and Hannah (Burnett) Nevins, a highly respected family and influential in their community. To the subject and wife nine children have been born, of whom those living are: Rose E., Charles W., Herman V., John Wilmer and Ellis; four children are dead.

Politically, Mr. Huxford is a Democrat, and he and his family attend the Christian church.

---

### GEORGE HENRY SALMON.

Success is only achieved by the exercise of certain distinguishing qualities and it cannot be retained without effort. Those by whom great epoch changes have been made in the political and industrial world began early in life to prepare themselves for their peculiar duties and responsibilities, and it was only by the most persevering and continuous endeavor that they succeeded in rising superior to the obstacles in their way and reaching the goal of their ambition. Such lives are an inspiration to others who are less courageous. Judging from the record George Salmon, well known farmer of Parke county, Indiana, is making, he has carefully laid the foundation for large future success, some of which he has already achieved. He is one of our worthiest native sons, who has been content to spend his life in his own community, the interests of which and the county he has ever had at heart and sought to promote. He is the scion of one of our sterling pioneer families, the good name of which he has ever upheld.

Mr. Salmon was born on the home farm, which he still occupies, located



less than a mile from Rosedale, Indiana, March 8, 1869. He is a son of Joseph and Eleanor (Doty) Salmon, a complete sketch of whom appears on another page of this work, hence need not be reproduced here.

George H. Salmon grew upon the farm and there has always worked from the time he was old enough. During the winter months he was to be found in the neighboring schools, where he received a good practical education. He has been very successful as a general farmer and stock raiser, having worked hard and managed well, and he is the owner of one of the best farms in this part of the county, consisting of three hundred acres, which has always been known as the Salmon farm. The subject has kept the place well tilled and improved in an up-to-date manner, so that it ranks with the best in the county, and has retained its original fertility. Here he carries on general farming and stock raising on an extensive scale.

Mr. Salmon was married on October 2, 1891, to Henrietta Boatman, daughter of one of the highly respected families of this locality. To this union three children have been born, named in order of birth as follows: Flossie, who received an excellent education and who has made one of the successful school teachers of the county, is living at home; Claude is assisting his father with the work on the home farm; Leah, the youngest child, is at home and is attending school.

Fraternally, Mr. Salmon is a member of the Modern Woodmen, and in religious matters he belongs to the Church of Christ. Politically, he is a Republican, and while he has never made an effort to be a leader in public affairs, yet his support could always be depended upon in movements having for their object the general good of his township and county.

---

#### CHARLES BENNETT.

One of the most enterprising and successful young farmers of the vicinity of Rosedale, Indiana, is Charles Bennett, a man who has made a careful study of the methods of general husbandry, the oldest of the world's arts, for all will agree, who are in any way conversant with agriculture, that it is an art, and one, too, that is not by any means mastered by all. It requires a man of close observing powers, a highly developed perceptive faculty, thrift, persistency and fortitude, and the idler and the dreamer never need try their hand at it, for on such the contents of the fabled horn of Cornucopia will never be poured.

Mr. Bennett, who is the owner of a valuable and highly productive farm of fifty-six acres, which he is managing with ever-increasing success, was born on May 13, 1873, in Mecca, Indiana. He is a son of Reuben and Martha (Biller) Bennett. The father was born in Indiana and has devoted his life to farming. His father was one of the early settlers of this state and the family has been well known in the sections of Hoosierdom in which they have resided from that early day to this. To Reuben Bennett and wife were born a large family, but only three of them are living at this writing, namely: Isabelle, who married a Mr. Wright; Charles, of this review; and Emmett.

Charles Bennett grew to manhood on his father's farm and there assisted with the general work of the same, and he received his education in the common schools, but he is very largely self-educated, having ever been a wide reader and a home student.

Mr. Bennett was married in 1894 to Maggie Hutchison, the daughter of a highly respected family, and to this union five children have been born, namely: Minnie, who married Blaine Wheat; Fred, Wallace, Cynthia and Claude.

Mr. Bennett and his family attend the Methodist Episcopal church, and politically he is a Democrat, but he has never been much of a public man and never cared for the emoluments of office, preferring to devote his attention exclusively to his home and farming.

---

### JAMES A. TAYLOR.

One of the farmers of Parke county who has believed from the outset of his career that "The wisdom of yesterday is sometimes the folly of today," and that while the methods of our grandfathers in tilling the soil were all right in their day and generation, yet in the twentieth century we are compelled to adopt new methods and farm along somewhat different lines, in view of the fact that conditions of climate, soils, grains, farming implements, supply and demand, etc., have changed since the epoch of the pioneers, is James A. Taylor. He has been a close observer of modern methods and is a student at all times of whatever pertains to his chosen life work and he has therefore met with encouraging success, and, judging from his past record, he will undoubtedly achieve much in the future years and take his place among the leading farmers of a community noted for its fine farms and adroit husbandmen.

Mr. Taylor was born on July 10, 1863, near the town of Lyford, Parke county, and he is a son of Silas and Lucinda (Davis) Taylor, the father having been one of the large farmers and land owners of this county in its history. He is now living in Sullivan county, this state, at an advanced age. His family consisted of five children, namely: Henry H. was the eldest; Abraham is deceased; James A., of this sketch; Edward was next in order, and Sarah I. is deceased.

James A. Taylor was reared on the home farm in his native county and while he attended the public schools some, he is principally self-educated. During his boyhood days he assisted his father in the regular farm work, and he was enabled to save a little money, so upon reaching manhood got married, spending his savings for household effects, buying teams of his father. The date of his wedding was March 22, 1888, and his bride was Amanda Salmon, daughter of Joseph and Eleanor (Doty) Salmon, a sketch of which family appears elsewhere in this volume. The following children were born to the subject and wife, namely: Herbert S., who married Joy D. Gaskin; Lucinda Mabel married Henry Kelch, and they have one child, Mary; Harold E., Ellis L., Eleanor D., James Stanley, Loren S., Mary A.; Francis Wayne, deceased; Helen M., deceased.

Mr. Taylor is very successfully engaged in general farming one hundred and fifty acres, the Salmon farm, located on the Salmon road, about a mile west of Rosedale. He belongs to the Church of Christ, and he is a member of the Modern Woodmen. He is a Republican and was elected township assessor by a good majority, being now incumbent of that office.

---

#### FRED GRIFFIN.

A man who is deserving of the success which he now enjoys is Fred Griffin, for he started out in life without assistance and without means and, by patient continuance, has won, having worked hard from boyhood. Managing well, he has become the owner of an excellent farm and a comfortable home, and he has led a life of such uprightness that he has ever enjoyed the good will and confidence of his neighbors and friends, thus upholding the dignity of the family name, for the Griffins have been known in Parke county since the early days and they have never been accused of unworthy acts.

Mr. Griffin was born in Parke county, Indiana, on September 13, 1866, and he is a son of Hiram and Lucy (Evans) Griffin, who devoted their lives

to farming in this county. They became the parents of nine children, those living named in order of birth as follows: George, Gertrude, Mart, Fred, Anna and Gilbert, the subject of this sketch having been the fourth child; three are dead.

Fred Griffin was reared on the home farm in his native county, and there he made himself generally useful during the crop seasons when he became of proper age, and in the winter time he attended the neighboring schools, applying himself in such a manner as to gain a very practical education. Early in life he took up farming for a livelihood and this he has followed ever since, and is now the owner of a very choice little farm of eighty-one and one-half acres, which he has placed under excellent improvements and cultivation. When nineteen years of age he began working out by the month on the farm, and, saving his earnings, it was in this way that he was at last enabled to purchase his present farm.

Mr. Griffin was married on December 31, 1902, to Ethel Remington, a daughter of a very highly respected family of this locality, where she grew to womanhood and where she received her education in the public schools. To this union one child has been born, Margaret, who is attending school at this writing. Mr. Griffin's family belong to the Christian church.

---

### JOHN R. NEWTON.

John R. Newton is now practically living retired after a long life of earnest endeavor. Through his many years of connection with agricultural interests he not only carefully conducted his farm, but so managed its affairs that he has acquired thereby a position among the substantial residents of the community. Moreover, he is entitled to representation in this volume because he is one of the native sons of Parke county, and his mind bears the impress of its early historical annals, and from the pioneer period down to the present he has been an interested witness to its development.

Mr. Newton was born August 15, 1865, on the old Newton home place, which is a part of the subject's farm. He is a son of Benjamin and Malinda (Lewis) Newton. The father was born near Cross Keys, West Virginia, and he was but a boy when he left that country with his parents, they being among the early settlers in Parke county, Indiana. He was a man of fine business qualifications. He started in with forty acres and at his death was the owner of seventeen hundred acres of excellent land, still retaining the orig-



inal forty acres he first purchased. To Benjamin Newton and wife were born eight children, six sons and two daughters, namely: George; John R., of this review; Isaac, Edward, Charles; Robert is deceased; Emma, who married a Mr. Ogden, and Mrs. Margaret McCool.

John R. Newton grew to manhood on the home farm and there he made himself generally useful during the crop seasons, receiving his education in the common schools. When twenty-one years of age he rented of his father, of whom he later bought land, and, having worked hard and managed well, he is now the owner of one of the choicest farms in Florida township, consisting of four hundred acres, all in a square and well located in one of the richest sections in the county. He has a substantial and commodious brick home in the midst of pleasant surroundings, on the west side of the Nessler gravel road, about four and one-half miles east of the city of Clinton. He has always kept a good grade of live stock and no small portion of his annual income has been derived from that source.

Mr. Newton was married in January, 1885, to Rachael Bound, daughter of Oliver and Rachael (Burson) Bound, the father having come to this country from Ohio and devoted his life successfully to agricultural pursuits. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Newton, namely: Harley B. is married and has three children; Stanley is at home and looks after the farm; Maxwell also assists in the management of the home farm, he and his elder brother renting of their father; Frances is at home.

The Newton family attend the Methodist Episcopal church and are liberal supporters of the same, being very prominent in church affairs.

---

#### ALBERT NURNBERGER.

The traveler with any experience whatever and who has been trained to observe carefully would know readily upon coming into the community where Albert Nurnberger resides that it was a German settlement, or at least a number of people live there with German blood in their veins. The farms are well kept, well tilled and well improved and the houses are clean and cozy looking. There is an atmosphere of thrift and cheerfulness about them which is not always noticeable in a farming community of other nationalities.

Mr. Nurnberger, who is the owner of an excellent and very productive farm of sixty acres on the Martin Kessler road, about five miles from Clinton, Vermillion county, Indiana, was born on June 28, 1866, on the old

Nurnberger homestead, and he is a son of John and Mary (Dean) Nurnberger. The father was born in Germany and there he spent his earlier years, emigrating from that country to the United States when eighteen years of age, after he had been educated in the schools of the fatherland. He at once penetrated to the middle West, locating in Parke county, Indiana, having come here with his parents, Adam and Eve Nurnberger, an excellent old German couple, who were the first settlers in this country of this name, and by persistency and hard work they became very comfortably established in the New World, and the family name from that day to this has been one which has stood for thrift and honesty, good government and clean living.

Albert Nurnberger grew to manhood on the old home place and there he made himself generally useful in the crop seasons when he became of proper age, and he received a good practical education in the public schools. He applied himself closely and was regarded as an excellent pupil. Early in life he began working on the farm in order to save enough money to purchase land of his own, which he did in due course of time and on this he is making a good living and laying by for his declining years.

Mr. Nurnberger was married on December 13, 1894, to Gertrude D. Chesser, of Rockville, daughter of Daniel and Jennie Chesser, of that place. To this union three children have been born, namely: Kathleen, Bernus and Helen Jeannette. The subject is a Methodist in religion.

---

#### FRED WALKER.

One of the up-to-date farmers and stock men of the section of Indiana of which this volume treats is Fred Walker, a man who has made farming pay because he has not only worked persistently and well, but because he has studied every phase of the same, always alert for new ideas and improved methods, where he deems them better than the old, and as a result the two hundred acres of finely improved and productive land which he operates, but which is in his mother's name, is made to yield abundant crops and a comfortable income from year to year.

Mr. Walker was born on March 17, 1879, and he is a son of Joseph N. and Margaret (Lewis) Walker. The father was born on the old Walker homestead in Florida township and he there grew to manhood and spent his life there, successfully engaged in general farming, and there his death occurred on June 4, 1912. Joseph Walker, grandfather of the subject, came

from Ohio and was the first of the name to come to the Wabash country and settle here, and from that early day to this the Walkers have been well known in this section. To Joseph N. Walker and wife five children were born, namely: Laura J., Arletta, David M., Dayton, and Fred of this sketch.

Fred Walker grew to manhood on the home farm and there assisted his father with the general work when he was a boy, and in the winter time he attended the common schools and was graduated from the Clinton high school. Later he took the course at the Indiana State University, from which institution he was graduated in the year 1904. He made an excellent record at the university and was popular with the student body.

Mr. Walker was married on December 27, 1911, to Pansy Bryant, a daughter of Frank and Mary Bryant. This union has been blessed by the birth of one child.

Fraternally, Mr. Bryant belongs to the Masonic order at Terre Haute, to which city they both go for their society and amusement. Mrs. Walker belongs to the Christian church. They are young people of pleasing personalities, educated, progressive, cultured and genial, and they have made a host of friends since taking up their permanent abode in this locality.

---

### CHARLES BRANNON.

As an all-round farmer and stock man, Charles Brannon, of the vicinity of Rosedale, Parke county, is deserving to rank with the most enterprising in his locality, for he believes in doing everything well and as scientifically as possible, thus conserving the strength of the soil and rendering it more productive than under the time-honored methods of husbandry known to our grandfathers, whose methods were all right in their day when the land was new, the soil deep and everything different; but the farmer who succeeds today must do differently, for the most part.

Mr. Brannon was born in Douglas county, Illinois, in 1874 and there he grew to manhood and received his education in the common schools, working on the farm during all of his school period. In 1900 he came to Parke county, Indiana, and here he has since resided. He is at present managing a fine farm for his father, consisting of one hundred and sixty acres on the Rosedale gravel road. He is a son of Christopher and Elizabeth (Peters) Brannon. The father came from Virginia when he was sixteen years old, he and his mother locating in the vicinity of Oakland, Illinois. His father had died in Missouri. Before coming to Indiana, Christopher Bran-

non purchased the Cloyd farm, which he continued to manage with much success until about two years ago, when he rented it, turning it over to his son, Charles of this sketch, who is now working it on the halves, and is managing it in a manner that reflects much credit upon his ability. He keeps his fields clean and well cultivated, never doing anything slovenly, and his fences are all up in good shape and the outbuildings kept well repaired. He is a good judge of live stock and some good breeds are on the place, which receives his special care.

Mr. Brannon was married on December 23, 1898, to Agnes Hollis, daughter of Clark and Sarah (McCord) Hollis. To this union two children have been born, Archie and Minnie. Fraternally, Mr. Brannon is a member of the Masonic order.

---

#### ERNEST CHANEY.

The traveling public in this section of Indiana have long since become acquainted with Ernest Chaney, the well equipped, obliging and genial liveryman of the town of Rosedale, Parke county. He is a man who has worked hard for what he has and in his dealings with his fellow men he has ever been known to be on the square. This has given him an excellent reputation and he enjoys a nice business in his line, which is constantly growing. He is of a fine old pioneer family.

Mr. Chaney was born on a farm in Parke county, Indiana, March 8, 1889, and he is a son of James and Emma (Lewis) Chaney, the father having been born on the old Chaney home place, which was settled by the subject's forbears when this country was practically a wilderness, and from that time to this the Chaney family has been well known in this locality. James Chaney grew up on the old homestead and he received his education in the common schools. He has devoted his life to farming and is now the owner of an excellent and well improved farm of one hundred and twenty acres, bordering on the town of Rosedale. To James Chaney and wife nine children have been born, namely: Ernest, Clarence, Curtis, Raymond, Herman, Albert, Letha, James and Stella, the latter being deceased.

Ernest Chaney, eldest of the family, grew to manhood on the home farm and there helped with the work during the vacation periods of his boyhood days, and in the winter-time he attended the public schools. He began farm work when eleven years old, and made general farming his vocation up to 1911, when he started in the livery business, having worked around at different things, made several successful horse trades and finally accu-



mulated about five hundred dollars. He is making a success as a liveryman, understanding well the handling of horses, and he has an excellent equipment for his chosen calling.

Mr. Chaney was married on June 25, 1910, to Sadie Cook. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and politically he is a Republican.

---

### JOHN E. HARSHBARGER.

A name too well known to the people of Rosedale and this section of Parke county to need any formal presentation by the writer of this brief life record is that of John E. Harshbarger, a successful insurance and real estate dealer, who has forged to the front in his line of endeavor through persistency and honorable dealings with his fellow men, thus enjoying their confidence and good will. He is also known to be a man who takes a keen interest in the affairs of his community and is not averse to lending such aid as he may in furthering all movements having as their object the general good of the same.

Mr. Harshbarger was born in Florida township, Parke county, Indiana, April 9, 1858, and he is a son of Henry and Mary (Doty) Harshbarger. The father was a native of Ohio, where he spent his earlier days and from which state he came to Indiana, when a baby, with his parents, Christian and Sallie (Dean) Harshbarger, who were natives of Pennsylvania and of Dutch stock. Henry Harshbarger was the head of the family in Indiana, and the father of five children, namely: Ella is deceased; John E. is living; Emily is deceased; Jerry and Henry were the two youngest and are both deceased, dying in childhood. Grandfather John M. Doty, Sr., came to Parke county in 1814, and entered government land in 1816, and soon after married Sarah McLain.

John E. Harshbarger was born on his father's farm, and he grew to manhood on the farm after coming to Indiana, and there assisted his father with the general work. He received his education in the rural schools of his neighborhood, later finishing his course at Ladoga College. He is an excellent type of a self-made man. He first started in life for himself by clerking in a store. Then he was in the employ of the Parke County Coal Company, and later went into business for himself in the general mercantile business, but eventually sold out to Couley & Son, general merchants, who are still conducting the business at Rosedale. Mr. Harshbarger had by this time a good start, having managed well and built up a good trade with the

surrounding country. He then went into politics and was clerk of the court for a period of four years, giving the utmost satisfaction in that capacity to all concerned, especially to his Republican constituents.

Mr. Harshbarger was married in 1883 to Mary E. Nicholson, who is now deceased. To this union two children were born: Gertrude and Gilbert, the latter deceased. Mr. Harshbarger was married a second time in 1900 to Nellie Myers. This second union has resulted in the birth of two children, Jennie and Katharyn, both attending school at this writing.

Mr. Harshbarger is a member of the Christian church and his wife belongs to the Presbyterian church. He was bookkeeper and later cashier of the Rosedale National Bank, and filled these responsible positions in a manner eminently satisfactory to the stockholders and patrons of the bank.

---

#### CHARLES B. THOMAS.

A desire to do honest work, render high-grade service and promptness have made C. B. Thomas, of Rosedale, successful in his life work, and he has become one of the leading undertakers of Parke county because of these and other necessary qualities which he was quick to see and determine upon when he started out to fight the battle of life for himself.

Mr. Thomas was born November 3, 1878, in Putnam county, Indiana, the son of William and Elizabeth (Ewing) Thomas. William Thomas was also a native of that county, and he devoted his life to general farming and threshing. His family consisted of the following children: Alice is deceased; Dora is next in order; Eliza is deceased; Henry and Oscar; Frank is deceased; Elmer, who lives in Oklahoma, is state senator at this writing; C. B., of this sketch; Ona is deceased, as is also Bertha; Fred and Cleve were the two youngest.

C. B. Thomas spent his boyhood in Putnam county and started, at an early age, to the public school in Brunnerstown, and in 1904 he went to the Barnes school at Indianapolis, where he learned embalming, graduating from that institution with a splendid record. He had worked on his father's farm up to the time he went to school. Following his graduation he went to Brazil, where he worked for a time at undertaking, then came to Greencastle. He then went into business in the country, later coming to Rosedale, Parke county, where he has since remained and has built up a very extensive patronage as an undertaker, ranking with the best in this and adjoining counties. He is ably assisted in his business by his wife.

Mr. Thomas was married eleven years ago to Lettie Mae Vinzant, daughter of William and Wealthy (Cox) Vinzant. To this union two children have been born, Clema Nellie and Cleo Gladys.

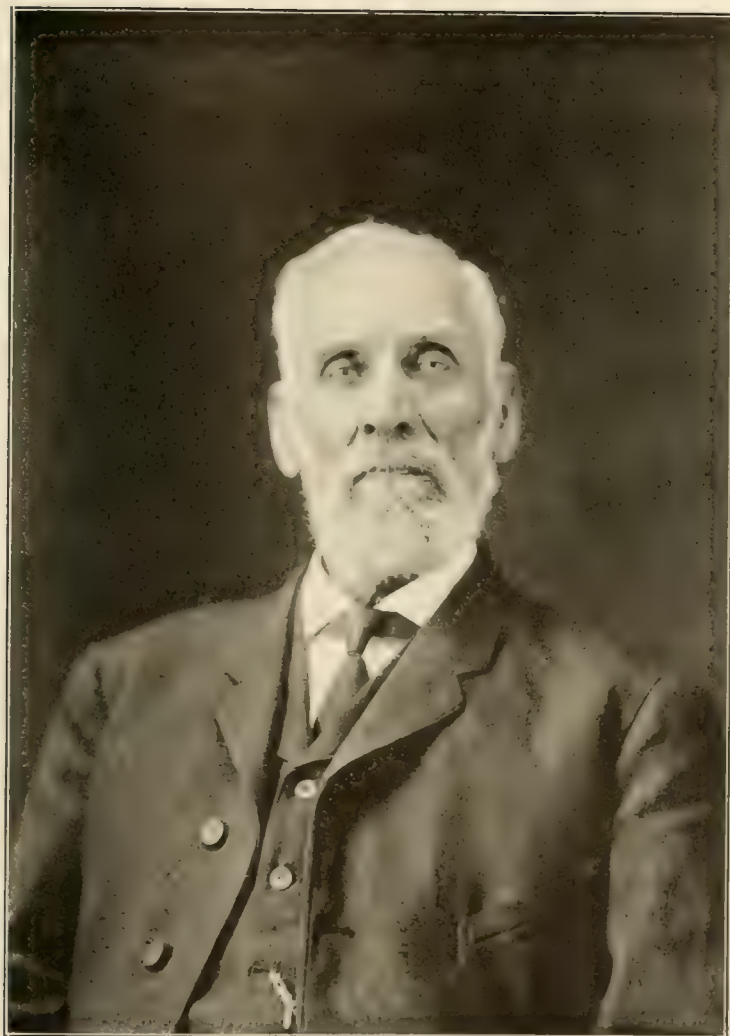
Mr. Thomas and family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. They have made a host of friends since coming to this locality, for they are pleasant people to know, neighborly, sociable and hospitable. Mr. Thomas has remained a deep student of all that pertains to undertaking and embalming, keeping up with the latest and most approved methods and he has met with pronounced success.

---

### SAMUEL COBLE.

There can be no greater honor than to serve one's country honestly and conscientiously in any capacity, but when the nation's integrity is at stake and it becomes necessary for the citizen soldiery to leave the common pursuits of life and go into the conflict, risking limb and life, it is a much greater sacrifice and the honor attached thereto is higher than almost any other known to man. Of this worthy class belongs Samuel Coble, for a long lapse of years one of the successful men of affairs of Parke county and a citizen who has served with rare ability and credit the people of this locality in various public capacities, but who is now living in honorable retirement in his pleasant home in the town of Rockville, which he has helped to develop and make a good place to live in. He is held in high esteem, also because of the fact that he is a veteran of the great war between the states, a public spirited citizen and has long led an active and useful life in this county, bearing all the while a reproachless character.

Mr. Coble was born in Carroll county, Ohio, July 15, 1838. He is the son of George and Mary A. (McKakhan) Coble, the father being a native of Pennsylvania and the mother of Virginia, from which state she came to Ohio when a girl and to that state also came the elder Coble, when a young man, and they were married there. There they remained until 1850, when they came to Indiana and located in Raccoon township, Parke county, later moving to Florida township, this county, where he remained until his death in 1875 having devoted his life to general farming, in which he was successful and was highly respected wherever he was known. His wife preceded him to the grave in 1871. They became the parents of eight children, seven of whom are living, namely: Samuel, of this review; Susanna, deceased; Elizabeth; Mary; Angeline is deceased; Amanda, George and Margaret.



SAMUEL COBLE.





Samuel Coble was reared on his father's farm in Carroli county, Ohio, and he received his early education in the public schools. He accompanied his parents to Indiana in 1850 and continued to assist his father in the work on the farm until he was twenty-one years of age, then worked by the month on a farm for two and one-half years.

Mr. Coble was thus engaged when the war of the Rebellion broke out, and he enlisted on August 14, 1862, in Company G, Eighty-fifth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and served in a most faithful and gallant manner until the close of the struggle, seeing much hard service and participating in many important campaigns and great battles. He was captured at Spring Hill, Tennessee, March 5, 1863, with fifteen hundred others and was taken to Libby prison. Col. John C. Coburn, of Indianapolis, was his commander. He remained in prison twenty-six days, when he was paroled. He went from there to Annapolis, Maryland, thence to Camp Chase, at Columbus, Ohio, then Camp Morton, Indianapolis, Indiana, and was legally exchanged. He returned to his command in June following and did guard duty on the railroads during that summer and the ensuing fall and winter. In the spring at the reorganization of the army he was put in the Twentieth Corps, commanded by Gen. Joe Hooker, and he took part in the following battles: Resaca, Golgotha, New Hope Church, Peach Tree Creek, the siege of Atlanta, and the battle of Averasboro, North Carolina, February 16, 1865, and many others. He then accompanied Sherman on his memorable march to the sea. After taking Savannah, Georgia, they crossed into the Carolinas, living off of the country as they went, destroyed the railroad and went on to Goldsboro, and were at Raleigh, North Carolina, when Lincoln was assassinated, soon after which Gen. Joe Johnston surrendered. Mr. Coble was then sent to Washington, D. C., where he participated in the Grand Review, and there he was mustered out, soon after which he returned home. He then resumed working by the month, which he continued for a year.

On August 18, 1867, Mr. Coble was united in marriage to Carrie Mark, daughter of Thomas F. Mark. She was born in Hendricks county, Indiana. Of this union there was no issue.

After his marriage Mr. Coble moved to a rented farm in Florida township, Parke county, where he lived six years, during which time he got a good start. He then purchased a fine farm of two hundred and four acres west of Rosedale, where he moved and carried on general farming most successfully for a period of eighteen years. Selling out in 1800, he bought of S

T. Catlin three hundred acres in section 1, of Florida township, which fine and valuable farm he still owns, and which he placed under a high state of modern improvement and cultivation. He also owns an excellent farm of one hundred and ninety-six acres in Adams township, this county, also two valuable residences in Terre Haute. He resided on his three-hundred-acre farm for a period of ten years. On March 4, 1901, he removed to Rockville, having accumulated a handsome competency, and there purchased a modern and attractive residence on Howard avenue, one of the most desirable homes in the city, and there he has since resided, surrounded by all the comforts of life as a result of his earlier years of strenuous endeavor and good management.

Mr. Coble has always taken an abiding interest in public affairs, and in 1892 he was elected county assessor, in which office he served four years in an able and most acceptable manner. He was appointed county commissioner for the second district, while he was in the state of Florida in 1904, and he was elected to this office the following fall and re-elected three years later, thus serving six years in all. It is the general consensus of opinion that the county never had a better commissioner, and during his incumbency he did much for the permanent good of the community.

While in the army Mr. Coble kept a diary which is very interesting. He is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, is a Mason, and a Republican in politics. Mrs. Coble belongs to the Christian church. The subject and wife have spent several winters in Florida. They are splendid people to meet and have a host of friends throughout Parke county, indeed wherever they are known.

---

#### HENRY ALLBRIGHT.

When Henry Allbright, township trustee and progressive farmer, began life for himself he did not seek any easy road to prosperity, but began to work hard to advance himself, and this has been one of the principles of his success in life, for the man of energy and thrift always accomplishes something. It may not be what he had expected, if he be a very ambitious man; but one thing is certain, nothing is accomplished without industry and persistency.

Mr. Allbright, who is the owner of a finely improved and productive farm of forty acres in Vigo county, Indiana, but whose interests have also long centered in a way at Rosedale, Parke county, was born December 24,

1862, in Raccoon township, Parke county, Indiana, and is a son of John and Rachael (Barnes) Albright. His father was a native of Virginia, where he spent his early boyhood, leaving there when a young man and coming to Indiana, settling in Parke county, where he became well established through hard work and honest dealings with his fellow men. He married and became the father of eleven children, one of whom died in infancy, Henry, subject of this sketch, having been sixth in order of birth.

Henry Albright grew to manhood in Raccoon township and there he attended the rural schools at the Hartman schoolhouse. He has a wife, Julia Fenquay Albright, and a daughter, Prepple Albright. Henry Albright started in life for himself as a farmer and this has continued to be his vocation.

#### DAVID WILLIAMS.

The present popular and efficient postmaster at Rosedale, Parke county, David Williams, is a man who has lived to good purpose and ranks with the leading citizens in his community, whose interests he has ever had at heart and done what he could to promote, being a man of public spirit and industry. His exemplary character and obliging nature have won and retained the good will and respect of all who know him.

Mr. Williams was born March 22, 1866, in Syracuse, Ohio, and is a son of David and Hannah (Hitchens) Williams. The father devoted his life to coal mining and has been deceased some time, having remained in Meigs county, Ohio. He was a native of Wales, from which country he came to Canada when a young man, remaining in the Dominion some time before coming to Ohio. His family consisted of eight children, namely: John A.; William F.; David, of this review; Catherine is deceased; Thomas C., Ollie, Lydia and Daniel.

David Williams grew to manhood in Meigs county, Ohio, and there received his education in the common schools, and when but a boy he began working in the mines, which he continued until taking the office of postmaster at Rosedale, Indiana. He served his time through all the different positions about the mines and has become one of the best informed men in the business of coal mining in this vicinity.

Mr. Williams was married on February 14, 1892, to Emma Ogden, daughter of John and Mary Ogden, the former born in England and the latter in Ireland. To the subject and wife three children have been born, name-



ly: Norma, Mamie and Everett, all attending school at this writing. The Williams family are affiliated with the Methodist Episcopal church.

Mr. Williams came to Parke county, Indiana, in 1887, and during the years of his residence at Rosedale has made a host of friends and has taken much interest in public affairs, doing what he could in the upbuilding of the town and community. Politically, he is a loyal Republican and is influential locally in the party. He has served in the town council and was appointed postmaster in 1911, of which office he is still incumbent and whose duties he is discharging in a manner highly acceptable to the people and the department.

---

### GEORGE WASHINGTON JACKS.

A leading agriculturist of Parke county is George Washington Jacks, proprietor of a finely improved farm in Adams township, being among its pioneer farmers, having maintained a home here all his life, being one of the native sons of the township who have done so much to develop his community in all its phases until it ranks with the leading communities of this section of the state, and now, in the golden evening of his life, this venerable citizen is enjoying the fruits of a well spent life and the esteem of a wide circle of friends.

Mr. Jacks was born in section 32, Adams township, Parke county, Indiana, August 7, 1835, on the farm which he now owns, and is a son of Reuben and Hannah (Irvin) Jacks. Reuben Jacks was born in North Carolina, October 22, 1809, and from there he went to Tennessee early in life to make his home. He came to Parke county, Indiana, in 1831, and located on the land now belonging to the subject, when the country was wild and sparsely settled, and here he began life in typical pioneer fashion. He developed a good farm in due course of years, which has never left the hands of the family and which has been so carefully cultivated as to retain its original fertility.

To Reuben Jacks and wife were born twelve children, namely: Samuel E. is deceased; George W., of this review; Daniel W., William M., Julia A. are all deceased; Rachael S. was next in order; Sarah E. is deceased; Martha E. and Mary E. were next in order; John Q. is deceased; R. K. and Maggie B. were the youngest. All of the above named children grew to manhood and womanhood and were married and reared families except William M. Two of them were soldiers in the Union army during the Civil war. William M. served in Company K, Fourteenth Indiana Volunteer Infantry;

he was disabled, was furloughed and died at home. Daniel was a soldier in the Eighty-fifth Indiana Volunteer Infantry.

George W. Jacks grew to manhood on the home farm and there made himself useful during his boyhood days, and in the school months he was to be found with the usual text-books in the schools of his home district. He remained at home until he was twenty-four years old. He was married March 10, 1859, to Hila A. Sapp, daughter of George and Phoebe (Hudson) Sapp. These parents came from Clermont county, Ohio, and here became well established through their industry, and were people of the best character.

Three children were born to Mr. Jacks and wife, namely: Anderson M. married Frankie Kerr, and they have two children, Frank, who is married, and Fay; W. B., who married Anna E. Cox; Martha A. married Ezekiel A. Williams, and they have eight children, namely: George, who married Florence Miller, has one child, Adaline, who is a great-granddaughter of the subject; Alva, deceased; Edith, Hila; Harold, deceased; Hubert, Gertrude, Homer.

Mr. Jacks has a well improved and very productive farm of five hundred eighty-six and one-half acres, which he keeps well stocked with an excellent grade of live stock. He has a commodious dwelling and large, convenient out-buildings, everything about the place denoting thrift and good management, and he is very fond of his home. He was married a second time, his last wife being Susan B. Asbury, who died about six years ago.

Mr. Jacks is a Republican, but he is not a politician, though he is interested in public affairs and supports all measures looking toward the general improvement of his county. The Jacks family are all affiliated with the Methodist Episcopal church.

---

#### J. H. MYERS.

Agriculture has been the true source of man's dominion on earth ever since the primal existence of labor and has been the pivotal industry that has controlled for the most part all the fields of action to which his intelligence and energy have been devoted. Among this sturdy element of Parke county, whose labors have profited alike themselves and the community in which they live, is the gentleman whose name appears at the head of this sketch.

J. H. Myers, who is a scion of one of our worthy old families, was born at Rockville, Parke county, Indiana, May 10, 1853, and here he has continued to reside, being contented to spend his life in his native community. He is a

son of James and Meriah (Painter) Myers. The father came to this state from Ohio, but was born in Pennsylvania, and when a young man he came to Indiana unaccompanied. His father remained in the East all his life. James Myers was a carpenter by trade and became a very skilled workman, his services being in great demand among the early settlers. His family consisted of nine children.

J. H. Myers grew to manhood in this county and he received a good practical education in the common schools, partly at Rockville and partly in the country schools. On December 9, 1877, when twenty-four years of age, he was united in marriage to Nancy J. Pollard, daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth (Pierce) Pollard, a highly respected old family of this locality. To Mr. and Mrs. Myers the following children have been born: William, Stacy, Alma Leona, Charles Otis and Gladys Marie.

Mr. Myers turned his attention to farming when a young man and this has continued to be his vocation. He has been very successful as a general farmer and stock raiser, and is at present the owner of a productive and highly improved farm of sixty-six acres on a by-road near the hospital, in Adams township. The state hospital commission bought forty acres of the farm of one hundred and six acres for a dairy farm. Mr. Myers has studied the various phases of farming and has carefully rotated his crops and added various improvements from time to time until he now has one of the most desirable places in this part of the county. He has a cozy home and a number of convenient and substantial outbuildings.

---

#### LEWIS E. ADAMS.

One of the best known farmers and highly respected citizens of Adams township, Parke county, during a past generation was the late Lewis E. Adams, a man who did much toward the general upbuilding of his locality, who played well his part as a public spirited citizen and whose memory will long be revered by a vast host of friends. He was a man of industry, believed in employing all his time to advantage, and in keeping his farm in first-class condition, so that it ranked with the best and most desirable in the community. He was a man of generous impulses, hospitable and charitably inclined, who delighted in assisting others on the highway of life. He came of one of our sterling old pioneer families and he took a delight in keeping its name untarnished. He was equally noted as a stock man, handling large numbers of animals from year to year.

Mr. Adams was born on the old Adams homestead in the Wabash bottoms, Parke county, Indiana, on September 12, 1856, and was a son of John E. and Elizabeth (Bullington) Adams. The father was but a child when he accompanied his parents from Kentucky to Parke county, Indiana, they being among the earliest settlers here. They began life in the woods, literally hewing out their farm from the wilderness. Neighbors were very few and very far removed in this part of the state at that time; there were no roads and all manner of wild game infested the jungles.

Lewis E. Adams grew to manhood on the home farm and there he assisted with the general work when he became of proper age, and he received his education in the rural schools of his neighborhood. When he reached maturity he began farming for himself and soon had a good start. He became the owner of a splendid farm in his native locality on which he carried on general farming and stock raising.

Mr. Adams was married on April 19, 1885, to Rosa M. Staggs, daughter of John and Lavina Staggs, and the subject and wife became the parents of six children, all sons, namely: Merrett, who lives in Seattle, Washington, is a member of the city fire department; Clay married Ethel Wood; Park, Eschol, John and George all live in Seattle, Washington.

Politically, Mr. Adams was a Democrat, but was not a public man. He belonged to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Baptist church. The death of Mr. Adams occurred on January 3, 1902.

---

### R. J. RUSING.

One of the venerable agriculturists and stock raisers of Parke county is R. J. Rusing, who owns a highly improved and productive farm of ninety-one and a fraction acres on the Rockville and Greencastle road, about four miles from the county seat. He is a man who has contributed in no small degree to the material and civic welfare of the township in which he has long resided, for he is not only a man of industry and clean personal habits, but is public spirited and likes to see things progress, the old give way to the new and better.

Mr. Rusing was born in Franklin county, Indiana, June 11, 1836, the son of John and Loviah (Thompson) Rusing. The father also was born and reared in Franklin county, and there the subject grew to manhood and was educated in the common schools, working on the farm during his school period as much as time would permit. When still a young man he came to Parke



county, this state, and worked out at farm work until he could get a start. He saved his money and purchased his present home place, which he has improved from time to time until it is one of the choice and valuable farms of the township, where he has met with continued success as a general farmer and stock raiser, having a pleasant home and good outbuildings.

Mr. Rusing was married on March 8, 1860, to Mary E. Swaim, daughter of Peter M. and Nancy Ann (Ball) Swaim. The father was but a baby when his parents brought him to Parke county, Indiana, from North Carolina, and settled about three miles south of where the subject lives. The Swaim family was a large one, and the wife of Mr. Rusing was the oldest child. Mr. Swaim was a self-educated man. He became a minister in the Baptist church and did a great deal of good during his life work, being well and favorably known throughout this part of the state. The union of the subject and wife has been without issue. Mr. Rusing has a niece, who is the wife of James Stryker.

Mr. Rusing belongs to the New Discovery church and is active in the work of the same, liberally supporting it. He has long been regarded as one of the influential men of his community, and takes a more or less active interest in public affairs; however, he has never been much of a public man, merely trying to do his duty as a good citizen. He was at one time elected justice of the peace, but declined to qualify.

---

#### ISAAC M. OVERPECK.

One of the leading farmers of Adams township, Parke county, is Isaac M. Overpeck, owner of a finely improved and productive place of three hundred and forty acres, fortunately located in one of the richest farming communities in the Wabash valley, about five miles from Rockville. Mr. Overpeck has long been regarded as one of our most enterprising and public-spirited citizens and a man who believes in wholesome living and honesty in politics, and he has ever advocated those measures which make for progress in every relation of life.

Mr. Overpeck was born December 16, 1865, in Jackson township, Parke county, Indiana, and he is a son of Andrew and Rebecca (Thompson) Overpeck. The father came from Butler county, Ohio, with his parents when he was thirteen years old, and here the family made permanent settlement. The father of Andrew Overpeck was Jacob Overpeck, and the latter became well known in Parke county in the early days. Andrew Overpeck was edu-

cated in the common schools of Ohio and Indiana, and here he grew to manhood and was married, and to his union with Rebecca Thompson eleven children were born, namely: William, Amanda, Nancy, Mary, Albert, George, Andrew, James, Isaac M. (the subject), Oscar and Jennie.

Isaac M. Overpeck grew up on the home farm and worked with his father when a boy. He received his education in the common schools. His father died when the boy was twenty-one years old, and the lad took charge of that year's crops, and later the estate was divided up.

Mr. Overpeck was married August 17, 1890, to Margaret Miller, daughter of James N. and Sarah (Snow) Miller. Three children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Overpeck, namely: Hervey, who is at home, but has finished schooling; Mary is at home, and Martha died at eight months of age.

Mr. Overpeck has been very successful as a general farmer and stock raiser and he farms scientifically, although he knows little of the science as is obtained from books, his scientific knowledge having been obtained from practical experience, close observation and careful thought and experiment. He has one of the most desirable farms in the county, everything denoting good management. His home is large and pleasant, in the midst of attractive surroundings, and he has such barns and outbuildings and modern farming implements as his needs require. Always a good grade of live stock is to be seen about his place.

Politically, Mr. Overpeck is a Democrat, and while he is not a public man, he is deeply interested in whatever tends to the betterment of his township and county. Religiously, he is a member and liberal supporter of the Baptist church.

Andrew Overpeck, father of the subject, was married a second time, his last wife being Charlotte Caress, and to this union one child has been born, Elias Overpeck, who married Mary Miller and to them the following children have been born: Norine, Earl, Marie, Fred, deceased, Ruth and Clay.

---

#### SEBASTIAN DURR.

Among the sturdy and enterprising farmers of Adams township, Parke county, is the gentleman whose name appears above, whose life has been one of industry and strict adherence to honorable principles, which has resulted in gaining a comfortable living and at the same time winning the respect of his fellow men and honoring the community. Sebastian Durr was born on August 4, 1862, in Washington county, Kentucky, the son of Sebastian

and Kitty Ann (Steins) Durr. The father was born and reared in the same county as was the subject; in fact, he spent his entire life there. He was the father of five children, namely: Napoleon, Jacob, James and Mary are all living in Kentucky; Sebastian, Jr., subject of this sketch.

Sebastian Durr grew to manhood on the home farm in the Blue Grass state and there he assisted with the work when a boy, and he received his education in the common schools of his community. He had not been born when his father died. At the age of twenty years he came to Putnam county, Indiana, and there worked on a farm about three years. He saved his money and thereby got a start in life, then went to California and worked on a fruit ranch for some time. Returning to Indiana, he purchased eighty acres in Washington township, Parke county, which he later disposed of and purchased the fine farm which he now owns, consisting of one hundred and seventy-nine acres on the Rockville and Terre Haute road, in Adams township. This he keeps well improved and carefully cultivated and carries on general farming and stock raising. He has met with encouraging success and has a good home and is one of the substantial farmers of his township.

Mr. Durr was married December 23, 1890, to Flora Eusebia Overman, daughter of John and Amanda (Burford) Overman. Mr. Overman came from North Carolina to Parke county, Indiana, among the early settlers, he having been a young man, accompanied by his brother Charles. They were the sons of Daniel and Anna Overman. Charles married, but had no children. The family is now all deceased. To John Overman and wife were born nine children, namely: William B., Charles W., John D., Zachary T., Thomas P., Voorhees, Virginia, Sarah A. and Flora E., wife of Mr. Durr of this review. The union of the subject and wife has been without issue. The subject has a nephew working for him, the only other Durr in Parke county. Mr. Durr is a Democrat, politically.

---

#### JAMES W. PUETT.

The biographer is glad to herein set forth the salient facts in the eminently successful and honorable career of the well remembered and highly esteemed citizen of Parke county whose name appears above, the last chapter in whose life record has been closed by the hand of death, and the seal set thereon forever, but whose influence still pervades the lives of those with whom he came in contact. For many years he was closely identified with the agricultural interests of the county, ranking among the leaders of this

history-old vocation. Mr. Puett was also a man who took a great deal of interest in whatever tended toward the upbuilding and progress of his county, aiding in every way possible in promoting the general good of the community. And he was a man of such a high sense of honor, so neighborly and hospitable, helpful and generous, that he was held in the highest esteem by all who knew him.

James "Whit" Puett, who was the owner of a fine farm of about two hundred and sixty-five acres on the Rockville and Rosedale road, about two miles southwest of Rockville, was born on December 5, 1838, on Big Raccoon creek, on the Puett homestead, Parke county, Indiana, which place was settled by his progenitors in the early days of the county's history, and from that day to the present the Puett family has been one of the most prominent in this locality. The subject was the son of Austin M. and Lucinda (Puett) Puett, his father having come from North Carolina to Ohio and later to Indiana, where he took up government land and there reared a large family, consisting of the following children: Cole, William, Albert, Austin, Caroline and Louisa, all of whom are now deceased; Thomas B. and James "Whit."

James W. Puett was reared in town, his father, Austin Puett, moving from the country to the town of Rockville, and he received his education in the public schools of his community, later taking a classic course. He began life for himself by raising stock, for which he had a natural bent and in which he was succeeding. Then the Civil war came on and Mr. Puett enlisted when he was about twenty-two years old in the Forty-third Indiana Volunteer Infantry as a musician, in which he served faithfully for a period of two years. After receiving an honorable discharge he returned home and took up farm work, which he continued the rest of his life with ever-increasing success, accumulating a comfortable competency through his industry and able management, owning one of the most desirable places in Adams township.

Mr. Puett was married on December 23, 1863, to Jane Harshman, daughter of Thomas and Anna (Overpeck) Harshman, who removed from Butler county in 1840 to Parke county, Indiana, and here became well established. His family consisted of five children, namely: Elizabeth is deceased; Jane, who became the wife of Mr. Puett of this memoir; Margaret was next in order; Eliza; Barbara E., the widow of T. B. Puett, mentioned elsewhere.

Faternally, Mr. Puett was a member of the Masonic order and was one of the active men in the local lodge. In politics he affiliated with the Democratic party, but was never much of a public man, though his support could always be depended upon in the furtherance of any measure looking toward the general good of his township and county.



The death of James W. Puett occurred May 6, 1909. His widow, a lady of many praiseworthy characteristics and who has always been a favorite with a wide circle of friends, has remained on the home place.

---

### THOMAS BENTON PUETT.

A list of the worthy and useful citizens of Parke county during a past generation would certainly be incomplete were there failure to make conspicuous mention of the late Thomas Benton Puett, a representative of one of the county's prominent families, for his life was one of industry, helpfulness and uprightness, resulting in good to every one with whom he came into contact, whether in a business or social way; and, his life being exemplary in every way, his record might well be held up for consideration by the youth with the latter part of life's thorny road yet stretching to unknown realms before them. He was a good citizen in every respect, and unhesitatingly offered his services, and his life if need be, to assist in preserving the Union when the flames of the great Civil war threatened to destroy the land.

Mr. Puett was born June 5, 1843, in Adams township, Parke county, Indiana. He was a son of Austin and Lucinda Puett, his father having come from North Carolina to Ohio, and later to Indiana, where he took up government land and there reared a large family, consisting of the following children: Cole, William, Albert, Austin, Caroline and Louisa, all now deceased; Thomas B. and James "Whit."

Thomas B. Puett grew to manhood in his native community and received his early education in the common schools. When the Civil war came on he enlisted in Company K, Forty-third Indiana Volunteer Infantry, in which he served most faithfully. He was married upon reaching manhood to Barbara Ellen Harshman, daughter of Thomas and Anna Harshman, a highly respected family of this section of the state. To the subject and wife one child was born, Anna, who married Oscar Cox, and they have one daughter, Ruth, who is attending school at this writing at Depauw University. She is preparing to be a teacher.

Oscar Cox was born on September 10, 1863, in Parke county, Indiana, and was a son of John B. and Maria Cox, well known in this county, where they devoted their lives to farming. Oscar Cox was educated in the country schools and worked on the farm during the school period. He started out for himself when but a young man, and, being energetic and tactful, he met with success from the first. He is now deceased, having passed away on January

19, 1908, leaving his widow about seventy-five acres of excellent land as a result of his earnest toil. Politically, Mr. Cox was a Democrat, but he was never a public man, notwithstanding he supported all measures looking toward the public good. The death of Thomas B. Puett occurred May 28, 1903.

### LYCURGUS T. STONER.

The name of Lycurgus T. Stoner needs no introduction to the readers of this history in view of the fact that he has long been a well-known and influential citizen in Parke county, whose interests he has ever had at heart and sought to promote when occasion presented itself, and, being a man of industry and exemplary character, he has always stood high in the estimation of the people.

Mr. Stoner, who ranks with our thriftiest agriculturists, being the owner of a well-improved and productive farm of one hundred and fourteen acres, and who lives with his father-in-law, Ezekiel D. Hamilton, also one of our worthiest and best known citizens, was born in 1859 in Putnam county, Indiana, is a son of Joseph and Martha (Hall) Stoner. The father was one of the early land owners in this county and a very prominent farmer. His family consisted of six children, namely: Lycurgus, of this review; Lucy, Ed., Albert; William is deceased; Mattie was the youngest.

Lycurgus T. Stoner grew to manhood on his father's farm and there he worked when he became of proper age. In the school months he attended the rural schools, and when but a young man started in life for himself. On October 18, 1900, he was married to Mary E. Hamilton, daughter of Ezekiel D. and Mary Florence (Torbet) Hamilton. Mr. Hamilton was born in Jackson county, Indiana, August 3, 1843. He was a son of John and Martha (Buchanan) Hamilton, the former a native of Kentucky and the son of James Hamilton, who came from Ireland and settled in Virginia. It is believed he was the first Hamilton to emigrate to America. Early in life Ezekiel D. Hamilton went to Boone county, Indiana, and thence to Jackson county, coming to Parke county in 1850, and here he has remained ever since. When fifteen years of age he commenced working on the farm and soon had saved enough money to buy a piece of land. He purchased the land he now lives on after he was married. One child has been born to Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton, Mary Elizabeth, wife of Mr. Stoner, and they have three children, namely: Clarence H., Joseph D. and Robert T.

Mr. Hamilton is one of the honored veterans of the great Civil war,

having enlisted in April, 1861, soon after Lincoln's first call for loyal sons of the North to put down the rebellion, and he served most faithfully and gallantly in the Fourteenth Indiana Volunteer Infantry for a period of three years, seeing much hard service and participating in a number of important engagements, his regiment having been in the following battles: Winchester, Green Brier, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Wilderness, Spottsylvania Court House and Cold Harbor, including nearly all the great battles of the war.

After he was honorably discharged Mr. Hamilton returned home and worked in a saw-mill for many years and later took up farming, which he has followed since in a successful manner.

---

#### GUY BRYANT.

A list of Parke county's prominent families would certainly be incomplete were there failure to make specific mention of the well-known farmer and representative citizen, and his relatives, whose name introduces this sketch, for his life has been one of industry, usefulness and honor, resulting in good to everyone with whom he has had dealings.

Guy Bryant, owner of a finely improved and productive farm of one hundred and twenty acres on the Bryant road, about three miles south of Rockville, Parke county, was born April 6, 1856, on the farm which he now owns, and here he grew to maturity and has always lived in Adams township. He received his education in the rural schools of his neighborhood. He is a son of Andrew and Emeline (Cornthwaite) Bryant. The father came from Virginia and was a very early settler in Parke county, well known to the pioneer element, and here he developed a good farm from the wilderness and became a substantial and highly respected citizen. The Cornthwaite family came from near Dayton, Ohio, and are still a large and influential family in this section of Indiana.

The subject was nine years old when his father died, and the farm was then operated by an older brother of the subject. Guy Bryant assisted with the work on the home farm during his school period, and when nineteen years of age he began life for himself and until recently successfully devoted himself to agricultural pursuits and stock raising. Having accumulated a competency for his old age, he is now living in retirement, having turned his farm over to his family.

In March, 1882, Mr. Bryant was united in marriage to Laura E. Beatty,

daughter of James C. and Sarah F. (Nutgrass) Beatty, the father having been born near Rockville, Indiana, the representative of a very old family. Nine children were born to James C. Beatty and wife, namely: Laura E., wife of the subject; Mildred, Rosette and Charles are all deceased; Mrs. Emma Lang; Mrs. Cora Barnes lives at Raccoon, Indiana; Edward, Joe and George. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Bryant, namely: Blanche May married D. A. Pence and they have one son, Maurice; Otto H. is at home; Ethel married Walter Clark.

#### ALONZO SOULES.

The farming element of Parke county has an able exponent in Alonzo Soules, a man who has learned the art of husbandry not from an agricultural college or from perusing agricultural and horticultural journals, but by practical experience, being by nature a close observer and a persistent worker, and he has therefore succeeded where, perhaps, others would have failed.

Mr. Soules is the owner of a productive and well-improved place of seventy-five acres on the Mecca and Rockville road, about a mile and a half southwest of Rockville, in Adams township. He was born March 1, 1855, near Terre Haute, in Vigo county, Indiana, and is the son of Lemuel B. and Anna J. MacKenzie. The father was born and reared in Vigo county on his father's farm, near the edge of the city limits of Terre Haute. His father, William Soules, came from the north of Ireland and settled in Vigo county, having first remained a while in Ohio, from which state he moved on to the vicinity of Terre Haute. His son, Samuel Soules, took up eighty acres early in life, started in for himself and made a success.

Alonzo Soules was educated in the old log schoolhouse near his home, and he worked on the farm during the vacation months. At the age of twenty years he purchased a piece of land from his father, and had a small farm, which he later sold, after which he came to Adams township, Parke county, about nine years ago, and bought land, and here he has continued to reside and develop a good farm and make a good living, laying by all the while for his old age.

Mr. Soules was married on November 1, 1875, to Josephine Kitchell, daughter of Albert and Nancy (Parmer) Kitchell. Her father came from Owen county, Indiana, from which he removed to Coles county, Illinois, where he followed farming and carpentering, and there he and his wife both



died. The subject's wife was reared there and received her education in the common schools.

Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Soules, namely: Frank, who married in Texas, has three children, Aaron, Raymond and Ovid; Norah, wife of Ovid Mason, are both deceased, leaving one child, Leo, who lives with the subject and is attending school; George Soules is deceased; Candissa is also deceased. Mrs. Soules died March 9, 1912, and Mr. Soules married, on October 3, 1912, Mrs. Minnie Thompson, of Parke county.

Mr. Soules is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the family are Methodists. He was at one time supervisor and road overseer in Vigo county. Politically, he is a Republican.

---

#### PERCY SEYBOLD.

One of the progressive young farmers of the vicinity of Rockville and a representative of one of Parke county's highly honored families is Percy Seybold, who has had the privilege, not vouchsafed to many of us, of spending his life on the old home place. This is a privilege which he appreciates as well as he should, for there is a charm about the home of our childhood which we never find elsewhere. Useless to say that he is keeping the old farm in excellent condition, rotating his crops and employing such other scientific methods of farming as are calculated to preserve the original fertility and strength of the soil, which he is managing for the heirs.

Mr. Seybold was born on the farm he now occupies, in Adams township, Parke county, Indiana, September 1, 1887, and is a son of Jasper L. and Margaret (Neet) Seybold. The father was also born on this farm and lived here all of his life, becoming one of the leading general farmers of the locality. He received his education in the neighboring schools, and early in life devoted his attention exclusively to general farming and stock raising. This place was settled by the paternal grandfather of the subject in a very early day when the country round about was sparsely settled and little improved and thus the Seybold family has been well known here for many decades.

Four children were born to Jasper Seybold and wife, namely: Nettie is the wife of Owen Swain, and they have one child, Harriet Evelyn Swain; Roscoe lives in Pennsylvania and is a graduate of Purdue University, being an electrical engineer; Percy, of this review, and Glaydis.

Percy Seybold, after passing through the local public schools, took an agricultural course at Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana. He returned

to the home farm after leaving the university and here he has remained, making a pronounced success as an agriculturist, operating the same on a scientific basis. This place consists of one hundred and eighty-six acres, all under cultivation. Fraternally he is a Mason, and the family holds membership in the Methodist Episcopal church.

#### WILLIAM B. COLLINGS.

The opportunities offered the farmer in Parke county are without question superior to those of most sections of the Hoosier state. Nature has indeed been lavish with her horn of Cornucopia in this rich Wabash valley country; but, notwithstanding these facts, success as a general farmer here is not to be obtained by the slothful and loafer. Hard, persistent effort and good management are required here just as they are in other parts of the country. One of the men realizing this is William B. Collings, who lives on a finely improved and productive farm of eighty acres, and in one of the finest rural homes in the county, known as "Allendale," and who is also the owner of two hundred and forty-two acres on the Collings gravel road.

Mr. Collings was born on March 3, 1861, on the above mentioned farm, which is known as the Collings home place. He is a son of Spotsard and Rebecca (Mattox) Collings, both parents coming from Kentucky to this county in an early day, the family having been an influential one in Shelby county, in the Blue Grass state. However, these parents were not married there, the father having been but eight years old when he accompanied his parents to Indiana. He was a farmer all his life. The Collingses were among the very first to settle in this vicinity of Parke county.

The subject of this sketch is one of seven boys, namely: Archibald B., Dr. S. P., Abraham J., Dr. Oliver P. (deceased), Neri, William B., of this sketch, and Dr. Howard P. Dr. S. P. Collings and Dr. Howard P. Collings are located at Hot Springs, Arkansas, and are medical men of national reputation, being especially prominent and influential in the councils of the various medical associations of America. Dr. S. P. is a thirty-third-degree Mason.

William B. Collings grew to manhood on the home farm and there he assisted with the general work when he became of proper age, and during the winter months he received his education in the public school in his district. When twenty-one years of age he purchased seventy-five acres of land from his father, which he worked with success, and in about five years he added to his original purchase, and succeeding years have brought him a large degree of

prosperity, and one would indeed be compelled to make a wide search throughout the state to find his superior as a modern agriculturist. He has his place well improved and under a high state of cultivation, on which stands a beautiful home and numerous substantial outbuildings.

Mr. Collings was married on December 24, 1884, to Laura B. Hamilton, daughter of Norval and Mary (Cress) Hamilton, a highly respected family. To this union four children have been born, namely: Edgar G., Brooks T., H. Banks, Sylvia M. Brooks T. Collings married W. E. Ferguson, but this union was without issue. Norval W. Hamilton was a patriot in the Mexican war. Among the most conspicuous of the deeds of daring performed during that great conflict was that of Private Norval Hamilton at the battle of Bellen Gate. It was one of those desperate assaults previous to the capture of the City of Mexico. The fighting was hand to hand and raged furiously. The Mexicans were often intrenched behind works that were deemed impregnable. At Bellen Gate the regiment of mounted riflemen, to which Norval Hamilton belonged, was in the front rank, and he was the first man to force his way through and among the enemy. This act was recognized by the personal thanks of President Polk in a "certificate of merit." Mr. Hamilton served two years and two months in the Mexican war. He was born in Ripley county, Indiana, November 18, 1826. He married Mary J. Cress November 12, 1853, and became the father of fifteen children.

Mr. Collings is a member of the Masonic order and is master of Parke Lodge No. 8, which position he has held for the past three years. He has long manifested an abiding interest in public affairs and is an influential factor in the Democratic party. In the year 1910 he was his party's candidate for state senator from this district. He made an excellent race, but was defeated, however by only thirty votes.

---

#### W. H. MAXWELL.

One of the enterprising farmers of Parke county who has appreciated home conditions and has been content to spend his life in his native locality is W. H. Maxwell, the scion of one of our worthy old families, and he has ever endeavored to keep the good name of the same untarnished, and is therefore highly respected in his neighborhood. He has been very successful in his chosen line of endeavor and is now living on a productive and well improved place on the Bloomingdale road. He was born in Adams township, about a half mile from his present farm, on the place known as the General

Howard farm and while young his parents moved to town. There he grew to manhood, attending the schools in town. He is a son of Samuel and Eliza Ann (Sunderland) Maxwell. The father of the subject came from Bloomington, Indiana, where he attended college, and after graduation came to Rockville, Indiana, and took up the study of law under General Howard, who was a prominent attorney here at that time. Having been duly admitted to the bar he opened an office and became one of the leading attorneys of the county and a man prominent in public affairs. He was finally elected common pleas judge for two counties, Parke and Vermillion; afterward judge of the circuit court, consisting of three counties, Parke, Vigo and Sullivan, which important office he filled to the eminent satisfaction of his constituents, being one of the widely known and honored jurists of his day and generation in this section of the state.

Four children were born to Judge Maxwell and wife, namely: Mary, Jewell, Louise and W. H., the subject.

W. H. Maxwell was not robust during his young boyhood days and his schooling was interrupted on this account. At the age of twenty-one he went on a farm of three hundred and twenty acres of fine timber land. He later sold some of this place to an Indianapolis concern, then purchased his present home place of two hundred and thirty acres, which he has brought up to a high state of cultivation and improvement, where he carries on general farming and stock raising, and on which he has a commodious dwelling and good outbuildings.

#### PARKE PHILLIPS.

Wabash township, Parke county, Indiana, has produced many young men who have proven successes in whatever they have attempted as a life work, and among them we are glad to add the name of Parke Phillips, the present capable and popular engineer of the Mecca Coal Company. He decided to learn the mining business when but a boy and he began earnestly at the bottom, so there would be no missing links, and, having laid a broad and sound foundation, he is in line for much greater success in the future. He is not only capable, but is a man of good personal habits and has proven to his employers that they can repose the utmost confidence in him.

Mr. Phillips was born on June 30, 1882, in Wabash township, Parke county, Indiana, and he is a son of Samuel and Anna (Chew) Phillips. The father was born in this county in 1861 and is still living in Wabash township, where he has devoted his life to general farming and is still active. The



mother of the subject was born in 1864 in this township and county, and she, too, is still living. Here these parents grew up and received a common school training and were married in their native community. They became the parents of five children, all of whom are still living.

Parke Phillips grew to manhood on the farm, where he worked when growing up, and he received his education in the public schools. On August 10, 1902, he was united in marriage to Effie Buffington, who was born on October 18, 1884, in Parke county, the daughter of John and Mary (Berkis) Buffington. To this union two children have been born, Lena and Muriel, the latter being deceased.

Mr. Phillips remained on the home farm until he was about nineteen years of age, when he began working in the mines, starting at the bottom and working up, and his rise was rapid. He has been in the employ of the Mecca Coal Company for a period of eleven years, and is now engineer, which position he has held for four years, giving the utmost satisfaction. He has the usual duties of a mine engineer, all of which he discharges very faithfully and conscientiously. He is liked by both his employers and the men about the mines.

Fraternally, Mr. Phillips belongs to the Woodmen at the town of Mecca. Politically, he is a Republican. He has been very successful in a business way, and he owns a cozy home near Mecca and thirty acres of excellent farming land in Wabash township, about one-half of which is in condition to be tilled advantageously.

---

#### CHARLES A. LIVENGOOD.

The subject of this sketch has succeeded in life because he has, in the first place, never been afraid of hard work, and also because he has done his work well, and has at the same time so conducted himself as to earn a reputation for good citizenship and fair dealings with his fellow men.

Charles A. Livengood, well known blacksmith and farmer of Greene township, Parke county, was born in Montgomery county, Indiana, June 28, 1858, and he is a son of John P. and Christena (Sappenfeld) Livengood. The father was born in 1819 in North Carolina, from which state he removed to Indiana when a boy and lived here till his death, which occurred on October 6, 1859. The mother of the subject was born on November 20, 1827, in the same county in North Carolina as was her husband, and she, too, came to Indiana in her youth, and they were married in the latter state and here spent the rest of their lives. Her death occurred on March 11, 1889. John

P. Livengood had only a limited education, but he was a student all his life and by nature a fine penman. He was a preacher in the Lutheran church and did a great amount of good among the early settlers here. To these parents two children were born, Mary M., who married J. Etter, a farmer, and they live in Montgomery county, Indiana, and Charles A., of this sketch.

Charles A. Livengood received a common school education, and on December 22, 1887, he was married to Mary Stark, who was born on October 24, 1858, in Parke county, this state, and here she grew to womanhood and received a good common school education. She is a daughter of John and Elizabeth (Connelley) Stark. To this union four children have been born, namely: Jessie I., who is teaching school in Greene township; John W. is at home; David C. and Hazel.

Mr. Livengood has always followed farming, and he is the owner of a small farm in Greene township, on which he resides. But blacksmithing has been his chief life work, he having conducted a shop near his home here for a period of twenty-one years, always having an excellent patronage from the surrounding country, for his superior skill in his chosen calling has won him a wide reputation, and not only high grade, but prompt, work has ever been his aim.

Mr. Livengood is a Democrat, and he was elected township trustee in Greene township in 1908 and is still discharging the duties of this office in a manner that reflects much credit upon his ability and to the entire satisfaction of all concerned. Fraternally, he is a member of the Modern Woodmen at Judson, Indiana. He is a member of the Lutheran church.

---

### WILLIAM LANNING.

It is gratifying to note that so many of the enterprising men of Greene township, Parke county, are native sons. Many communities lose their best blood by not being able to offer sufficient inducements to keep it at home, but in this respect Greene township has been fortunate, for nature has been lavish in her favors here and the young men of this locality have been able to see successful futures for themselves right here at home, consequently they have not been lured away by the beckoning of the wanderlust spirit into unknown, uncertain and precarious fields, for the youth is always at more or less disadvantage when he leaves his native heath and takes up his lot among strangers in a strange land.

Among the local young men who have been contented to spend their lives

at home is William Lanning, who was born on July 7, 1877, in Greene township, Parke county, Indiana, the son of William E. and Eliza (Mottom) Lanning. The father was born in this county, on the old home place in this township, the Lanning family having been among the early pioneers here and they have been well known and influential in Greene township from that early day to the present time. The mother was born in Adams township, near New Discovery church, and she is still living on the old Lanning homestead, but the father was called to his eternal rest on August 12, 1912, after a successful and honorable life as a general farmer here. His family consisted of five children, two of whom are still living, namely: William, of this review; John, Sarah Catherine and Nichols Lee are all deceased; Charles W. is the youngest child.

William Lanning grew to manhood on the home farm and there he worked when a boy during the crop seasons, and he received a good education in the common schools. On November 30, 1911, he was united in marriage to Nellie Settles, who was born on December 12, 1881, in Washington township, Parke county, Indiana. Here she grew to womanhood, was educated in the common schools and the State Normal School, graduating from the latter institution in 1910. She taught school in Greene township awhile. She is a daughter of William F. Settles, who was born on April 2, 1849, in Kentucky, and who, upon reaching manhood, married Emma Dickon, who was born in Indiana on August 3, 1861.

Mr. Lanning has always followed farming and each succeeding year has found him farther advanced than the preceding, and as a general farmer and stock raiser he ranks high with his neighbors in the same lines of endeavor. Fraternally, he is a member of the Masonic order at Judson and the Knights of Pythias at Bellmore. Politically, he is a Democrat, but he has never been especially active in public affairs.

---

#### ALBERT WHEAT.

The name of Albert Wheat, cashier of the Ogara Coal Company, is well known to the people of Parke county, for here he has spent the major part of his active, honorable, public-spirited and well ordered life, being a scion of one of our most influential old families, members of which have done much toward the permanent good of the community, so the name should be represented in this work.

Mr. Wheat was born on July 25, 1863, in Roseville, Parke county, In-

diana, and is a son of Edward L. and Margaret (Nail) Wheat. The father was born on January 16, 1833, in Washington, D. C., and his death occurred in March, 1906. The mother was born in 1845 in Indiana and her death occurred on March 19, 1877. Edward E. Wheat came to Roseville, Indiana, when a young man and there engaged in merchandising for some time, devoting his later life to agricultural pursuits, and he here became very comfortably established through his industry. His family consisted of twelve children, six of whom are still living.

Albert Wheat grew to manhood in Roseville and received his education in the public schools and in the State Normal School at Terre Haute. On April 30, 1885, he was united in marriage to Margaret Neilson, who was born on March 7, 1863, in Edinburgh, Scotland, from which country she was brought to the United States when five years old by her parents, Robert Neilson and wife. Thus she grew to womanhood and was educated in this country. Six children have been born to the subject and wife, namely: Edna E., who married Fay Calvert, and they live in Clinton, Indiana; Clarence S. is deceased; Lawrence is with the Lavin Brothers' wholesale house, in Terre Haute; Ernest A. is deceased; Mabel M. and Ruth D. are both at home.

Mr. Wheat started in life as a merchant, assisting his father in the store at Roseville, also working on his father's farm some. After leaving the State Normal School he engaged in merchandising in the town of Mecca on his own account for a period of about nine years, during which time he got an excellent start, then sold out in 1901 and went to Indianapolis, where he engaged in the sand and gravel business on White river, remaining there about one year, then accepted a position with a fuel concern in Chicago, with which he remained, giving eminent satisfaction, until about 1906, when the firm with which he was connected sold out. Later the subject became manager of the Hyland Coal Company, of Ohio, remaining in that capacity with his usual success for about a year and a half, then returned to Terre Haute and took a position with the A. Grafe Company, wholesale grocers, as assistant book-keeper. Resigning there, he took a position on the road, traveling for about three years, selling advertising specialties out of Iowa City for awhile, then resigned and accepted a position with the Canine Milling Company, at Clinton, Indiana, and after selling flour for a while he resigned and was appointed deputy county auditor with James E. Elder in 1911, which position he filled with credit until June 4, 1912, when he accepted a position as cashier with the Ogara Coal Company, of Chicago, which operates in Wabash township, Parke county, and he is still in this work, giving his usual high grade and conscientious service. Mr. Wheat has an interest in a good farm in Parke county. Politically he is a Democrat, and he attends the Methodist Episcopal church



## CHARLES P. WALKER.

Self assertion is believed by many people to be absolutely necessary to success in life, and there are good reasons for the entertainment of such a belief. The modest man very rarely gets what is due him. The selfish, aggressive man elbows his way to the front, takes all that is in sight, and it sometimes seems that modesty is a sin, with self-denial the penalty. There are, however, exceptions to all rules and it is a matter greatly to be regretted that the exceptions to the conditions referred to are not more numerous. One notable exception is the case of Charles P. Walker, general manager for the William E. Dee Clay Manufacturing Company, of Chicago, with interests in Wabash township, Parke county, Indiana, where the subject has long resided.

Mr. Walker was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, October 22, 1849, and is a son of Christopher and Rachael Elizabeth (Wiltsey) Walker. The father was born on May 4, 1812, in Ohio, and his death occurred on January 14, 1869. The mother was born in Pennsylvania in 1820 and here death occurred in 1857. Christopher Walker was a merchant in Cincinnati, also engaged in railroading for awhile. His family consisted of eight children, six of whom are still living.

Charles P. Walker was educated in the common schools. On October 15, 1873, he married Jeanie A. Sammis, who was born on April 8, 1851, in Brooklyn, New York, and she received a common school education. To the subject and wife six children were born, four of whom are still living, namely: Rachael is deceased; Antoinette married Charles Steward, who is deceased, and she is living in New York; Geniva H. married Charles H. Hughes and they live in Michigan; Fanny Frances is deceased; Charles P., Jr., married Annett Cutler, and they live in Maywood, Illinois; Jeanie A. married Samuel Cutler, and they also live in Maywood, Illinois.

Mr. Walker started in life for himself as office boy with a railroad company, then became cashier in the employ of the Chicago & Great Eastern Railroad Company, later paymaster. He gave entire satisfaction in all the capacities in which he was placed while railroading, but finally, tiring of that field of endeavor, he went into the coal business at Clinton, Indiana, in which he remained with ever-increasing success for a period of twenty-five years, during which time he organized the Norton Creek Coal & Mining Company, of which he was general manager and which he made a great success through his energy and business sagacity. He eventually became general manager for the William E. Dee Clay Manufacturing Company, of Chicago, and Mr.

Walker has been looking after the interests of this company in Wabash township, Parke county, ever since it was organized, thirteen years ago, his long **retention in this** responsible post being criterion enough of his high grade and faithful service. The output here is about ten cars per day, including sewer pipe, tiling, wall coping, culvert pipe, well tubing, fire-proofing, flue lining, chimney tops, fire brick, fire clay, hollow brick, terra cotta and others, and their products are of such high grade and up-to-date pattern that there is a very ready market for them. About one hundred and eighty men are employed in this plant, which is the largest of its kind west of Akron, Ohio. Mr. Walker is a Democrat, but has never been active in public affairs. Fraternally, he belongs to the Masonic order at Clinton.

#### DR. EVERETT MORTON EVANS.

One of the best known and highly esteemed professional men of Parke county, Indiana, is Dr. Everett Morton Evans, of the village of Mecca, who has long been successfully engaged in the practice of his profession and who ranks with the leading citizens of his community in every respect, being not only highly skilled in his chosen calling, but also public spirited and of high ideals, advocating honesty in both private and public life, so that he has ever enjoyed the confidence and good will of the people.

Dr. Evans was born on October 27, 1864, in Camden, Indiana, and he is a son of George D. and Sarah (Reynold) Evans. The father was born on May 30, 1830 in Brown county, Ohio, from which state he came with his parents to Indiana when he was four years old and here he grew to manhood, was educated, married and spent the rest of his life, his death occurring in 1904. The mother of the subject was born on April 15, 1837 in this state, and her death occurred in 1903. George D. Evans devoted his life to contracting, in which he was very successful. His family consisted of seven children, all still living but one.

Dr. Evans received his primary education in the public schools, and Terre Haute high school, from which he graduated in 1885. Leaving that institution, he began preparing himself for his chosen calling and, with that end in view, he went to Cincinnati, Ohio, where he entered Pulte College, in which he made a splendid record and from which institution he was graduated in 1895. Soon afterward he returned to his native state and began the practice of his profession at Mecca, Parke county, and has since the day he opened his office, October 17, 1895, enjoyed an ever-increasing

and lucrative practice, which is still growing. He has met with great success and his patients, many of them, come from remote parts of the county. He has remained a close student of all that pertains to his vocation and has kept fully abreast of the times.

Dr. Evans was married on April 4, 1886, to Sidney B. Stephens, who was born on April 6, 1877, in Putnam county, Indiana; there she grew to womanhood and received a common school education and also attended high school. She is a daughter of C. Stephens and wife. The union of the subject and wife has been without issue.

Fraternally, Dr. Evans belongs to the Masonic order at Montezuma, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Knights of Pythias and the Woodmen at Mecca, and he stands high in fraternal circles here. The Doctor has been very successful in a business way and he owns a commodious home and a modernly equipped office, also several valuable rental properties in Mecca.

---

#### DEE THOMPSON.

The proprietor of the general store in any community is always found to be one of the most influential of its citizens. He comes into contact with all phases of life, has to meet every problem which comes to the public at large, and his place of business is the center of the commercial life of the place. Dee Thompson, at Grange Corner, Sugar Creek township, Parke county, Indiana, is no exception to the rule. He is not only a man of influence because of his position in Sugar Creek township, but is prominent in all the activities of the place and well known for his honesty and integrity.

Dee Thompson is the son of Joseph R. and Dorinda (Pickard) Thompson. The father is a native of Parke county, Indiana, being born here on February 3, 1849, his mother being born in the same county on May 27, 1851. They attended the common schools, and after they were married went on the farm, where Joseph R. Thompson was very successful. He has retired from active work now, and he and his wife are still living in Parke county. They had six children, four of whom are still living. Dee Thompson was born November 12, 1879, in Sugar Creek township, Parke county, Indiana. He lived on the farm, working during his school vacations, and, having finished school at the age of eighteen, commenced teaching.

On April 23, 1905, Mr. Thompson married Nellie Harrison, who was also a native of Sugar Creek township, Parke county, Indiana. Her father was George Harrison and her mother was Margaret (Rankin) Harrison, who

was born in Scotland. Mr. Thompson continued teaching until he was twenty-seven years of age, during which time he spent all of his free time farming, but in 1908 he went into the general mercantile business at Grange Corner, Sugar Creek township, Parke county, and he has been very successful there. He has been energetic and progressive in his management of his store, and his fair treatment of everyone, together with his interest in all the affairs of the community, have made him very popular. He has a good store, and is one of the most reliable and able of the citizens of Sugar Creek township.

Mr. Thompson has been active in the political as well as the social life of his home, and is a Republican by conviction. He is also identified with the Modern Woodmen of America, at Marshall, Indiana. As one of the younger and most reliable men of his section of the country, Mr. Thompson will undoubtedly hold his place among the men whose lives have counted for the good of Parke county.

---

#### JUEL A. DELP.

It is indeed a problem when we see the young men going to the cities to find their life work in manufacturing and mercantile pursuits, shutting their eyes to the opportunities that now, more than ever before, await the young farmer. It is true that conditions often show now-a-days that life for a family in general is easier in the city than on the farm, but gradually these unattractive elements are being eliminated from farm life, and it would be well to look at the success of some of the young farmers of Indiana and see how their efforts have been abundantly rewarded. A good example of the prosperous young farmer is Juel A. Delp, near Marshall, Indiana, who is already one of the most prominent men in his community. He is popular in Parke county, and has established himself as a reliable citizen and a man of highest honesty and integrity.

Juel A. Delp is the son of Luther and Mary (Stares) Delp. His father was a native of Parke county, Indiana, and died there April 9, 1912. His mother was born in Fountain county, Indiana, and is still living. They were farmers and were highly respected in Parke county, where they made their home. They had only one child, Juel A. Delp, who was born August 15, 1880, in Sugar Creek township, Parke county, Indiana. His early life was spent on the farm, learning the best ways of managing crops, and learning by practical experience the lessons that have been of so much benefit to him



since. He attended the common schools and the high school, and after graduating turned his attention immediately to farming.

On December 19, 1902, Mr. Delp married Leona Dotson, the daughter of Joseph and Julia (Barker) Dotson. She was born December 9, 1885, in Parke county, Indiana, and was educated in the common schools of that district. They have three children, Ruby and Doris, and Hubert, who is at home. Mr. Delp now has four hundred and fifty-six acres of some of the best land in Sugar Creek township, Parke county, Indiana, and has brought it to a high state of cultivation himself. He has built his home on the place, and the farm, its equipment and condition, and his modern home, are a monument to his industry and forethought.

Politically speaking, Mr. Delp has always been an ardent Republican. In 1908 he was made township trustee and still holds that position, as he has gained the confidence of his friends and neighbors by his careful attention to business, his honesty and integrity, and his good service. Mr. Delp has been very successful and as he has won his way already to a place of prominence in Parke county, his services will probably meet with an abundant reward. It is such men as Mr. Delp who, in the midst of the multitudinous duties which constantly surround the farmer, can find the time to give to public affairs and time to think and express themselves on all the large issues of the day; it is such men to whom America must look for her prosperity.

---

#### IRA HOBSON.

The West has always drawn the young and enterprising men of the East, with her promise of a new country, equal opportunities, and a fair reward, and, therefore, the first and second generations in a new country are always marked by their progress and unceasing work in the upbuilding of the district. When the father of Ira Hobson came to Indiana as a young man he selected a growing country, and both he and his sons have contributed a large share in forwarding its growth to the present state of prosperity.

Aaron Hobson was born in North Carolina in 1810, coming to the state of Indiana with his parents, Isaac Hobson, Sr., and Amy Marshall Hobson, in 1830, when he was a young man. He lived with his parents until his marriage to Polly Newlin in 1834. She was the daughter of Joshua and Achsah Newlin. The Newlins migrated to Indiana about the

same time as did the Hobsons. His chosen companion aided him greatly in building a home in the New West. They commenced farming and lived here in Parke county, Liberty township, until death claimed them, Mr. Hobson in 1845, and his wife in 1851. They had seven children namely: Newton, Matilda, Joshua, Ira, Isaac, Achsah and David, all of whom departed this life while they were young, with the exception of Ira, who was born in Liberty township, Parke county, Indiana, June 26, 1838. He spent his youth on the farm, attending the common schools, and learning many valuable lessons regarding agriculture, which he had ample opportunity to put into practice. He was married December 22, 1861, to Elve Newlin, the daughter of Nathan and Sarah Newlin. She was born January 14, 1838, and was also a native of Parke county, Indiana. She was educated in the common schools of that county. To this union were born eight children, three of whom are still living, Jimmie L., Henry and Hermon. Milton A. and Melvin departed this life while they were quite young, Octavia S. was born the 9th of March, 1863; she was married to Charles Ratcliffe in the year 1882, and now lives near DeWitt, Arkansas. Martha C. was born February 13, 1873; she was married to Perl Printy, May 24, 1891, and now lives in Warren county, Indiana, near Danville, Illinois. Love was born July 13, 1876, and was married to Artie Hobson in the year 1894, and is now living on his farm near his father's.

Ira Hobson, Sr., has devoted his life to his family and his farm. When he was a young man he taught school for a while, but later he turned his entire attention to his farm; at which time he owned one hundred and fifty acres of land. He has now seventy-four acres, all in fine tillable soil. He has taken excellent care of his land, and has received his reward in fine crops and extensive production. He has brought his land to a high state of cultivation and it is now well tilled.

Mr. Hobson has always been a prominent man in his community, as he is a man of high mental ability, and his honesty and integrity in any position of trust is unquestioned. He is a Republican, and in 1879 he was elected to the position of township trustee, in Liberty township, in which capacity he served for four years. Ira Hobson is still active on his farm and in the affairs of his county. He has seen Parke county grow in importance, and has helped to settle all of the questions of importance which his community has had to face for the last half century. He is respected by all his friends and neighbors, as a man of sober judgment and sagacity in all affairs which affect the community as a whole, or any individual in it who may seek his advice.

## S. G. LINDLEY.

If one judges a doctrine by the lives of those identified with it, and tests the efficiency of a church by the works of its members, the Quaker or Friends' church in Indiana must be highly esteemed and universal respect given its members. The kindliness of their spirit and the strict honesty and integrity everywhere observed among them, have made them some of the most valuable citizens of the state, and we find them in positions of trust everywhere. The life of S. G. Lindley is a monument to his church, and he has long been regarded as one of the most prominent citizens of Parke county.

Stephen G. Lindley is the son of Hiram and Hannah (Woody) Lindley. His father was born September 4, 1842, in Liberty township, Parke county, and is still living. His mother was born November 11, 1865, and is also a native of Liberty township, Parke county, Indiana. Hiram Lindley has for years been one of the most prominent farmers in that district and he is still active in his work. They had nine children, five of whom are still living. Stephen G. Lindley was born November 24, 1869, in the same location where his parents were born and raised. During his early life he attended the common schools of that county, and later attended high school. Together with his school education, Mr. Lindley gained a great deal of valuable information about farming during his boyhood days, but after graduating he turned his attention to the trade of a carpenter.

Mr. Lindley was married April 28, 1895, to Icy Pickard, the daughter of John S. and Rosebelle (Wilknis) Pickard (whose biographies will also be found in this work). She was born January 31, 1870, in Sugar Creek township, Parke county, Indiana. They have one daughter, Dora, who is in college.

After his marriage Stephen G. Lindley gave up his carpenter work and ran a blacksmith's shop. He soon left this, however, and went to farming, and he has been very successful on his farm. He owns forty acres of land, all of which is tillable. There are many improvements on the place, and it is one of the best equipped farms in that part of the country, Mr. Lindley having made all the improvements himself. Mr. Lindley has found the time in the midst of his arduous duties on the farm to take an interest in a number of affairs outside his immediate vicinity. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Tangier, as well as the Knights of Pythias at Kingman, Indiana. The family belongs to the Friends church, and Mr. Lindley has been a faithful worker in this church for years. So well is he thought of in his community, and respected as a man of the highest integrity and standards

that the people have often depended on his judgment in local affairs. Mr. Lindley is a Democrat and was elected to the office of township trustee in 1908, which position he still holds. It is such men as Mr. Lindley who leave a marked impression on the people with whom they associate, and whose influence in their community lives long after they are no longer with us personally.

---

#### M. HUDSON NEAL.

The coal mines in Vermillion county, Indiana, are a great source of income to that section of the state, and in them are employed some of the finest men in Indiana. The ordinary picture of the miner should not present itself when we think of these mines. They are not among the smoky flat topped mountains of Pennsylvania, nor near the proverbially dirty city of Pittsburgh, but lie in the midst of a beautiful green agricultural district in Indiana and offer opportunities for some brilliant accomplishments in engineering. Among the workers in these mines is Hudson Neal, who has been interested in them all his life, being raised in this district.

Mr. Neal was born in Clay county, Indiana, July 6, 1886. His father is W. T. Neal, who has spent his life around the mines. He was born in 1864, and is still living in Hymera, Indiana. He married Ella Christ, who was born in Indiana in 1866. They received common school education when they were young, and their nine children had the same advantages. The father being interested in the mines, it was a natural attraction and ambition for the children, and Hudson has spent his time perfecting himself in an engineer's work there. He is a single man and has given a great deal of time and thought to his work. Mr. Neal has been a miner for sixteen years, but has only recently been at his present location in The Deering Company mine No. 2, having come here April 2, 1909. He has improved the work at the mines in a great many ways since he has been occupied there, and his careful attention to his work and his thorough knowledge of it have made him invaluable to his employers.

Mr. Neal is a young man of sterling qualities and is highly respected in his neighborhood. He is a Mason at Clinton, Indiana, and is a Republican by political convictions. He is a man of energy and his influence is strongly felt in his vicinity. It is men like Mr. Neal, who form the backbone of a community and keep it abreast with the best things that the age offers.



## J. CARL RUTTER.

The present able and popular county recorder of Parke county has spent his entire life in this locality and he has always had deeply at heart the well being and improvement of the county, using his influence whenever possible for the promotion of enterprises calculated to be of lasting benefit to his fellow men, besides taking a leading part in all movements for the advancement of the community along material, social, educational and moral lines. For a number of years he ranked as one of the successful and prominent educators of Parke county, having taken an abiding interest in educational affairs and done much to advance the same in this locality.

Mr. Rutter was born in Racoon township, Parke county, Indiana, May 9, 1878. He is the son of David M. and Sarah Jane (Elson) Rutter, the father having been born in Ohio, from which state he came to Parke county, Indiana, at an early date and here became a substantial and influential citizen.

David Merriman Rutter was born at Carrollton, Carroll county, Ohio, October 13, 1837, and died at the home of Charles and Emma Rutter, April 19, 1912. He was a son of Joseph Rutter, a Methodist minister, and Mary (Bacum) Rutter, both of whom passed the greater part of their lives in Ohio. David M. was the last surviving of a family of ten children. He, like many another young man, caught the spirit of the "go West" movement and came to Indiana in the spring of 1864, which ever since was his home. He was married April 9, 1868, to Sarah Jane Elson, daughter of Hense and Elizabeth Elson. To their home were born seven children, viz.: Josie Alice Chapman, Eva Grace Bowman, William Elson, Charles Bacum, Joseph Carl, Arthur Earl, and Sylvia Floss, all of whom are living except Eva Grace Bowman and Arthur Earl. The wife and mother died August 12, 1902. David Rutter taught school at Carrollton, Ohio, and for many years in Parke county, Indiana, and there are many who can testify to his good influence as a teacher. He was a good and praiseworthy man. Mr. Rutter was a well-informed member of Bridgeton Lodge No. 169, Free and Accepted Masons. He was a devout Christian, having united with the Salem Methodist Episcopal church in 1888, though at the time of his death he was a member of the church at Bridgeton.

J. Carl Rutter was reared on the home farm, where he assisted with the general work when of proper age, and received his primary education in the rural schools of his neighborhood and in the Indiana State Normal School



J. CARL RUTTER.



at Terre Haute, where he made a good record. Thus well equipped for his life work, he began by teaching school, which he followed with uninterrupted success in Parke county for several years, giving eminent satisfaction to both pupil and patron, his services being in great demand. Taking an interest in public affairs, he was elected county recorder in 1906, and took office January 1, 1907, serving four years with such eminent satisfaction that he was re-elected in the fall of 1910 on the Republican ticket and is now discharging the duties of the same with fidelity and credit to himself; in fact, he is regarded as one of the best county officers Parke has ever had. He has long been active in his party and influential in its counsels, and at the present time he is serving as chairman of the Republican county central committee, and is doing much to keep the principles of his party to the forefront in this locality.

Mr. Rutter was married on June 26, 1907, to Maude Seller, daughter of Benjamin F. Seller, of Bridgeton, this county. To this union two daughters have been born, Dorothy Dale and Rozelle.

Fraternally, Mr. Rutter is a member of the Knights of Pythias at Bridgeton, also the Masons at that place. He and his wife are worthy members of the Methodist Episcopal church and both stand high in the circles in which they move.

---

#### HARRY L. LOWE.

Among the progressive citizens of Clinton, Vermillion county, who have been active in promoting the business and civil interests of that district, is Harry L. Lowe, a Hoosier by birth and affections. He has given much of his time and attention to public enterprises, and by his sterling integrity and unquestioned honesty has won the confidence of his friends and neighbors.

Harry L. Lowe is the son of George and Alice (Brichelles) Lowe. George Lowe was born in Indiana, near Perrysville, in 1844, and died in August, 1911. He was a lumberman and reaped the benefits of the progress made in that line of business in the years when the state of Indiana was young. He married Alice Brichelles, a native of Michigan, who did not live to see this century. They both had common school educations and were modest, honest, reliable people. After the death of his first wife Mr. Lowe married again, and had two more boys, Harry being the son of his first wife.



Harry L. Lowe was born in Indiana, November 11, 1878. He finished the common schools very creditably and later attended Valparaiso University. In school he excelled in mathematics and science, and after graduation he accepted a position as teacher of these two subjects in the high school at Clinton, Indiana, remaining identified with this school for three years. On April 15, 1902, he married Edna Cossey, who was born in Indiana on November 10, 1883, and received the common school education which the state provides for all. They have one child, Tom, who was born February 9, 1906.

After he finished his teaching in the high school at Clinton, Mr. Lowe turned his attention to the coal business. He accepted the position of pay-roll clerk in the office of the Clinton Coal Company in 1908 and, having familiarized himself with the work in the office, in a short time went to the mine to acquaint himself with the first step of the business. He holds the position of top boss at these mines at the present time.

Mr. Lowe is a member of several lodges, among which are the Masonic lodge at Perrysville, and the Knights of Pythias at Clinton, Indiana. His family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and are highly respected in their community. His influence is always thrown to all progressive measures, and he has realized that the greatest movements come through individual effort to arouse interest in those by whom they are personally surrounded. The influence of such a man may be compared to the wave caused by a ship in a large body of water—it goes on forever.

---

### JAMES ASHMORE.

The mines in Vermillion county, Indiana, form one interest in that district which holds the people together, and in these coal mines are some of the most substantial men in the community. James Ashmore came there four years ago, and in that time he has worked his way to a place of prominence in the mines and has established himself as a highly respected citizen in that locality.

Mr. Ashmore is the son of Robert and Elizabeth (Clifton) Ashmore. His father was born in Ridge Farm, Illinois, March 17, 1840, and his mother was born May 16, 1852, and was also a native of Illinois. They received ordinary educations and lived on the farm in that state all of their lives, Mr. Ashmore dying February 7, 1903, and his wife February 13, 1908. They had seven children, all of whom are living.

James Ashmore was born March 16, 1887, on the farm near Ridge Farm, Illinois. He spent his early life in that place, receiving a common school education and working upon the farm during vacations. March 2, 1907, he was married to Vermida Cannady, of Dana, Indiana, the daughter of Jones Cannady, a prominent farmer in that region. After graduating from the grade schools, she attended high school for four years. She was born March 1, 1889. James Ashmore and his wife have had two children, Ralph, born May 20, 1908, and Russell, born August 16, 1911.

After finishing school, James Ashmore farmed a few years, but, tiring of farm life soon, and longing to get into the outside world, he went on the railroad. He soon took a position as bookkeeper in Illinois and later fired on the railroad for two years. After this experience he found work on the railroad to be unsatisfactory and went back to the farm for three years. Mr. Ashmore now realizes that he could never be contented on the farm and when he heard of an opening in a brick yard he worked there for three years. During all this time he was gathering a very valuable education in connection with the men with whom he worked, and he was able when he took the position in the mines in 1908 to work so successfully with the men that he is now top boss at Crownhill mine No. 2. He has always done top work at the mines and has met with great success in this work.

Mr. Ashmore is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, belonging to Camp No. 1205 at Clinton, Indiana. He has taken an active part in all of the affairs of this community during the time he has lived here, and is a Republican, politically speaking. Mr. Ashmore is an enterprising and active young man, and his influence is felt, not only at the mines, but in the whole district.

---

#### MORGAN PUFFER.

Vermillion county is characterized by her full share of the honored and faithful element who have done so much for its development and upbuilding and the establishing of the institutions of civilization in this fertile and well favored section. In this work are comprised many biographical and memorial sketches of this class of citizens and it is not in the least too early to record in print the principal items in the lives of such honest people, giving honor to whom honor is due. Among this number is the Puffer family, of whom Morgan Puffer is the only survivor of the well known name. He is one of the best known and progressive agriculturists in Helt township. He is a

descendant of a worthy pioneer citizen of this locality, who spent his life and did much toward the general progress of the county along material, civic and moral lines.

Morgan Puffer was born in Helt township, Vermillion county, Indiana, December 26, 1846, and is the son of Reuben and Harriet (Depuy) Puffer. His father was a native of Massachusetts, coming to Vermillion county when a boy of thirteen. He came with his grandparents, Elisha and Hannah Mack, both old people and with limited means. The journey to Indiana was before the time of railroads. It began on December 1, 1837. The conveyance for the first two hundred miles was a one-horse sleigh. When the snow melted this was traded for a one-horse wagon, in which they came to Olenna, on the Allegheny river above Pittsburgh. The grandmother was there taken ill with lung fever and the journey was delayed for six weeks. The horse and wagon were traded for some money and a quantity of cloth. With the cloth as their stored treasure, they engaged passage on a raft on the Allegheny river and went to Pittsburgh; thence they went to Cincinnati on a larger raft, the same being two lashed together. At Cincinnati they engaged passage down the Ohio river and to Clinton on a steamboat and from Clinton to his first Indiana home on Hiddle's prairie. Reuben Puffer was a farmer all his life. In politics he was a Democrat, but was not a public man and never held office. His mother was the daughter of one of the pioneer settlers, the Depuys being well known for several generations. She received her education and grew to womanhood in this vicinity. She was united in marriage to Reuben Puffer in March, 1845, and to them two children were born.

Morgan Puffer, the subject of this sketch, grew to manhood on the homestead in Helt township. There he assisted with the general work during the summer months, and in winter attended the district schools. Early in life he took up farming and this has been his vocation ever since. He has been content to remain in his native township; here he has met with success beyond the average tiller of the soil. He is the owner of one of the choice and productive farms of the county, consisting of four hundred and fifty-five acres, which he has brought up to a high state of improvement and cultivation and which he has managed so as to bring him in a handsome competency. His dwelling is one of the most commodious and attractive in Helt township.

Mr. Puffer was married in 1875 to Susan Whalen, daughter of Patrick and Almire (Lightfoot) Whalen. She was a native of Illinois, but her people were natives of Kentucky, moving to Edgar county, Illinois, in the early

thirties. To this union two children were born, Ernest, who died in 1900, and Mabel, who married Stanwood Martin (now deceased), and lives at home with her parents. She has one child, Robert Puffer Martin.

Religiously, Mr. Puffer is a Baptist.

Mr. Puffer's one great hobby is the accumulation of old relics, consisting of old farm tools, old guns, Indian relics, etc. He has one of the largest collections of anyone in the county, especially old guns.

---

### JOSEPH D. ADAMS.

It is both gratifying and profitable to enter record concerning such a man as he whose name initiates this biographical review, and in the following outline sufficient will be said to indicate the forceful individuality, initiative power and sterling character which have had such a decided influence in making their possessor a leader in an enterprise requiring the highest order of business talent, and to gain for him wide publicity among those who shape and direct policies of more than ordinary consequence. The dominating spirit of self-help is what has conserved the distinctive business success and prestige of Mr. Adams, who has for many years stood at the head of one of the leading industrial enterprises in the Middle West. At Indianapolis he has, from modest inception, built up one of the leading manufacturing establishments in a locality long noted for its commercial enterprise, and he controls a trade which ramifies throughout the United States and even pervades many foreign countries, and he enjoys the high reputation which is ever significant of personal integrity and honorable methods. He is one of the worthiest native sons of the locality of which this volume treats, and is a scion of a prominent old pioneer family of Parke county.

Joseph D. Adams, inventor, manufacturer, and president of the noted firm of J. D. Adams & Company, of Indianapolis, Indiana, was born on December 12, 1853, in Parke county, Indiana, and is a son of Harvey and Eliza (Caruthers) Adams. The father was born in Ohio, July 25, 1825, spending his boyhood years in his native state, but when a young man he removed to Indiana and established the family home in Parke county, where he devoted his life successfully to general farming and stock raising, and here his death occurred on April 3, 1904. Politically he was a Republican and while he was influential in local public affairs he was not a politician and led a quiet home life. The mother of the subject was born on November 4, 1826,



in Parke county, and her death occurred June 15, 1912. Eight children were born to these parents, six of whom are still living, namely: John W.; Mary Ott is deceased; Joseph D., of this sketch; Mrs. Emma I. Trublood; Albert, who married a Miss Bullock; Laura is deceased; L. Alice married a Mr. Overman; L. Edgar also married into the Overman family.

Joseph D. Adams was reared on the home farm and there made himself generally useful when he became of proper age. He received his primary education in the common schools of his locality and later attended the Bloomington Academy. He began life for himself as a farmer and school teacher and soon had a good start, but, being of an inventive turn of mind and having a decided bent toward industrial affairs, he gradually drifted into his present business in 1882. He originally designed and built the well known machines, "The Little Wonder Grader," "The Road King," "King Junior," "Giant Road King," and "The Reclamation Ditcher," which have been sold in enormous numbers all over the country. The "Reclamation Ditcher" was so named because it was first used in the United States government in its vast reclamation works, with much success. Mr. Adams came to Indianapolis in 1887, and from that year until 1893 engaged in the manufacture of road machinery and bridge building, with a partner, under the firm name of Hunt & Adams. The firm dissolved partnership in 1893, and the subject established the firm of J. D. Adams & Company, under which he has continued with ever-growing success from that time to the present. He has had to enlarge his quarters from time to time and constantly add new machinery and equipment and employ additional men, until he now has one of the largest, best equipped and superbly managed manufacturing plants in Indianapolis, everything being managed under a splendid system, only skilled artisans being employed and nothing but high grade work turned out. He built his present substantial and convenient factory in 1907. His products cover nearly all of the United States, especially the Mississippi river country, the Gulf and Pacific coast, and large consignments are sent to foreign countries. Owing to the superior quality and honest workmanship of his products there has long been a very ready demand for them.

Mr. Adams was married on April 13, 1876, to Anna Elder, who was born in April, 1851. She is a lady of culture and refinement, and has long been a favorite with a vast circle of friends. She is a representative of one of the influential old families of Parke county, a complete sketch of whom will be found on another page of this volume, under the caption of James Elder, who is a brother of Mrs. Adams. The latter grew to womanhood in

her native community and received her education in the public schools and Bloomingdale Academy.

Three children have graced the union of the subject and wife, namely: Anna Laura, who was educated in the schools of Indianapolis, and at DePauw University, at Greencastle, Indiana, married Edward Henry. She is now deceased. Roy E. Adams was educated in Purdue University at Lafayette, Indiana; he married Miss Leona Haywood, of Lafayette, Indiana, and lives at No. 3255 Washington Boulevard, Indianapolis, and he is in business with his father, as manager of the factory. William Ray Adams was also educated at Purdue University; he married Miss Helen Johnston, of Indianapolis, and they live at No. 3131 Washington Boulevard, Indianapolis; he, too, is in business with his father, as assistant manager. S. C. Trublood, brother-in-law of the subject, is treasurer of J. D. Adams & Company.

Personally, Mr. Adams is a gentleman of pleasing address, always obliging, genial and an advocate of wholesome living and clean politics. He is a fine type of the successful, self-made, honorable American of the twentieth century—alert, energetic, broad-minded, progressive.

---

#### J. H. MARK.

The people of Florida township, Parke county, point to J. H. Mark as one of their most valuable citizens, admiring him for his skill as a farmer, his persevering industry and his high moral character, for his life among them for sixty-two years—all of his life—may well be likened to an open book. He made his advent into this world in pioneer days, and is a connecting link between that period and the present, during which time he has lived to see and take part in the great changes that have occurred here.

Mr. Mark was born in Florida township, this county, June 23, 1850, on the Halbert farm, and is a son of John W. and Elizabeth (Jordan) Mark. The father was born in Kentucky, from which state he came with his parents to Indiana, his father, John Mark, having entered land from the government near the city of Greencastle, he having been the first one of the Mark family to settle in this state, and the family was influential in the early history of Putnam county.

J. H. Mark first went to school in Putnam county, this state, later finishing in the schools of Parke county, including the Friends Academy at Bloomingdale. He then took a course in DePauw University. After coming into

this neighborhood he bought land from his father-in-law and has devoted his life to agricultural pursuits with a marked degree of success. He is now the owner of a finely improved and productive farm of one hundred and seventy-two acres, on which he keeps a good grade of live stock and on which stand a commodious home and convenient outbuildings.

Mr. Mark was married to Charlotte D. Lewis, daughter of Barnett and Rebecca (Forbes) Lewis, and to this union three children have been born, namely: Rose Ella, who married J. D. Porter, of Brazil, Indiana, and they had three children, Mearl (deceased), Josephine and Henry Mark D. Ovid Ellsworth Mark married Pearl Vestal and they have one child, Frank L. Ovid Ellsworth Mark is a minister in the Methodist Episcopal church at Boston, Massachusetts. Elizabeth Rebecca is the wife of Fred Wentworth, of Terre Haute, Indiana.

In religious matters Mr. Mark is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, as is also his family, and politically, he is a Prohibitionist.

---

#### WILLIAM F. BROWN.

Wherever he is found, the Scotchman always stands for honesty and integrity. He is reliable and his sturdy determination and persistence make the Scotch blood in this country one of the most valuable of European strains. We find in these children of bonny Scotland a droll humor and an unvarnished kindliness that makes them very successful in their relations with their fellowmen, especially in positions of authority. William F. Brown, of Clinton, Vermillion county, Indiana, exemplifies these invaluable traits of his race, and he is one of the most highly respected citizens in his community.

Mr. Brown was born in Scotland, February 15, 1857, of William F. and Isabelle (Faulds) Brown. His father was a native of that country, being born there in October, 1831, and he lived there all his days, dying in March, 1897. His mother was born in Scotland in 1836 and died one year after the birth of her son. William F. Brown, Sr., was a teacher when he was young, but at the time of his death he held the position of cashier in McDowell's Foundry at Johnstone. William F. Brown, Jr., was the only child, and he came to the United States in December, 1882. He first made his home in New York, but later went to Pittsburg, Pennsylvania.

Mr. Brown was married November 27, 1881, to Mary McIntyre, who

was born April 31, 1857, in Scotland, where she received a rather limited education. They have three children: William F. lives in Terre Haute, Indiana; James B. is at home and Margaret married Dave Downey.

During Mr. Brown's residence in Pennsylvania he was employed in coal digging, but he stayed there only about a year, and in 1883 moved to Clay county, Indiana, where he remained until 1887. During this time he was a machine boss. Mr. Brown continued to climb the ladder of success, and he soon went to Sullivan county to act as general superintendent for the New Pittsburgh Coal and Coke Company. In 1901 Mr. Brown left this place for a position of still higher trust in Jencave, W. S. Bogel's mine. There he was superintendent of all of the interests of the Clinton Coal Company in Vermillion county. Needless to say, this position was held to the credit of Mr. Brown and his company, and he is now acting as construction superintendent for the same company. During all his activities Mr. Brown has stood strictly on his own merits, gaining every promotion by hard work and foresight.

Mr. Brown is active in a number of interests in his county, as well as the state at large. He is a Mason, a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows in Clay City, Indiana, of the Knights of Pythias at Clay City, and is identified with the Redmen at Sullivan. Mr. Brown's family are Presbyterians and are active in the work. Politically speaking, William F. Brown is a Republican. He does his duty to his community politically and socially, as well as in a business way, and is one of the foremost citizens of Clinton. Mr. Brown owns his own home, near Clinton, as well as a number of lots in the town. It is such men as he who build up a community by being thrifty, honest and reliable, proving that some of America's most successful children are those who are adopted from across the water.

---

#### STEPHEN JENKS.

For various reasons Stephen Jenks is deemed eligible for specific mention in this volume, not the least of which is the fact that he was one of the brave "boys in blue" who offered his services in defense of his country during the dark days of the sixties. His life has been one of honest endeavor and filled with good deeds throughout, and now, in the golden Indian summer of his life, he is enjoying a respite in his serene home at Dana. He has passed his eighty-third milestone and during his long, useful and industrious life



he has been a most interested spectator to the crowding events of that momentous period in our history, having seen and taken part in the development of western Indiana, witnessing its phenomenal growth from a wilderness to its present advanced state of civilization and prosperity.

Mr. Jenks was born in Washington county, Indiana, June 8, 1829, and he is a son of Tilly and Feroma (Taylor) Jenks, the father born March 12, 1800, in Vermont, from which he eventually moved to New York, and later to Washington county, Indiana, locating in the vicinity of Salem, and in the fall of 1848 he moved his family to Vermillion county and here he spent the rest of his life, dying on May 6, 1882. The mother of the subject was born in New Hampshire. The subject's father was a blacksmith by trade, and he also farmed some. His family consisted of eight children, three of whom are still living.

Stephen Jenks grew to manhood in his native community and received his education in the common schools. On October 5, 1864, he was married to Mary James, who was born April 7, 1837, and to this union four children were born, three of whom are still living, namely: Alma, who married L. E. Brown; Mayme, deceased, married George Sparks; Stephen Jenks, Jr., and Floyd B.

Stephen Jenks began farming early in life and this vocation he followed through all his active career; however, he worked some with his father at blacksmithing. He was very successful in his life work and laid by a competency for his declining years.

When the Civil war came on Mr. Jenks enlisted in August, 1861, in Vermillion county in Company C, Eighteenth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, under Captain Washburn, who, being promoted, John C. Jenks, brother of the subject, was made captain of that company; he, too, was promoted to major and was later killed in battle. Stephen Jenks served three years to almost an hour and during that time he participated in many memorable campaigns and engagements, including the battles of Pea Ridge and Magnolia Church (or Raymond), also the siege of Vicksburg, and the battles around that stronghold, including Jackson; later served in Texas and was in a great many skirmishes, always performing his duty faithfully. Major Jenks, mentioned above, received his mortal wound while gallantly leading a charge on the forts at Vicksburg, dying some thirty-six hours later.

Stephen Jenks is now making his home with his oldest daughter at Dana, he having made the improvements on the home place here himself, and they are very comfortably located. Fraternally, he is a member of the Masonic order at Dana. Politically, he is an ardent Prohibitionist.

## ELBERSON HATHAWAY.

Dependent very largely upon his own resources from early youth, Elber-son Hathaway, one of the best known business and representative citizens of the town of Perrysville, Vermillion county, has attained to no insignificant success, and though he may have, like many another man of affairs, met with some misfortune and encountered many obstacles, he has pressed steadily forward, ever willing to work for the end which he has in view. He has become one of the leading merchants of his section of the county, having built up an extensive trade in the grocery business and he has done much to promote the general progress of Perrysville.

Mr. Hathaway was born November 6, 1867, in Fountain county, Indiana. He is a son of Asher P. and Martha Allen (Clifton) Hathaway, both also natives of Fountain county, the father's birth occurring on March 22, 1844. There they grew to maturity and were married on February 14, 1864, and there they established the home of the family until 1873, when they moved to Perrysville, where they spent the rest of their lives, the father dying on January 17, 1900, and the mother passed away eighteen years previously, October 2, 1882. Their family consisted of four children, three of whom are still living.

Elberson Hathaway was reared to manhood in his native community and there he received a good common school education. On April 5, 1892, he was married to Lottie Richardson, who was born August 18, 1872, in Fountain county, Indiana, and there she grew to womanhood and received her educational training in the public schools. She is the daughter of Stephen and Elizabeth (Ricketts) Richardson. The union of the subject and wife has been without issue.

Mr. Hathaway started out in life as a farmer and in that manner got a good start. Later taking up the optical business in the town of Perrysville, he built up a very satisfactory patronage. He had for years made this subject a close study and in order to perfect himself in the same took a course in the Chicago Northern Illinois Optical College, where he made a splendid record and from which institution he was graduated in 1904. Soon after that he went into the grocery business in Perrysville, which he has continued with ever-increasing success to the present time, enjoying a large trade with the town and surrounding country, always carrying an extensive and carefully selected stock of staple and fancy groceries at all seasons.

Fraternally, Mr. Hathaway is a member of the Knights of Pythias

and the Court of Honor, both at Perrysville. He is a member of the Christian church, and in political matters he is a Democrat and while he is more or less interested in party affairs and in whatever tends to promote the general good of his town and community, yet he has not been a seeker after public office or mixed especially in political matters.

---

### ROSS VANSICKLE.

It is not the man who is content with the ideas of his fathers, who is content with things because they have always been so, and who undergoes hardships because others have undergone the same, who makes his mark on a community, and from there on the state and the country; but the man who is progressive, the man who is constantly looking for opportunities and making the most of those which present themselves, studying obstacles to find a way to overcome them. Such a man is a blessing to his family and neighbors and his influence extends far. Among the men in Vermillion county who have shown themselves to be progressive, in business, social, and political life, is Ross VanSickle, who has been for many years one of the most highly respected, substantial men in Clinton, Indiana.

Mr. VanSickle was born May 5, 1851, the son of Samuel and Jaley (Donaldson) VanSickle. His father was a native of Indiana, being born in this state in the eighteenth century, and dying here in 1867. He married Jaley Donaldson, who has also lived in this state all her life, and is still dwelling here. His parents were honest, hardworking people, of the stock to whom the state owes her early growth. They received only a common school education, but gained from their every-day experiences and such reading as could be easily gained in those days a knowledge of human life of which their son reaped great benefit. Samuel VanSickle was a farmer and an engineer, and was highly respected in his neighborhood. He had five children by Jaley Donaldson. Ross VanSickle has one brother, and one half-brother and half-sister living.

Ross VanSickle received a very limited education, living his early life on the farm. In 1887 he married Clara Coalman. She was born in 1868 in Indiana and went to school in this state. They had eleven children, eight of whom are still living: Harry is single and staying at home; Joe is married and is the engineer at Oak Hill Mine No. 5; Bertha, Ruby, Gertrude, Jim, Helen and Ruth are all at home.

Mr. VanSickle is a member of the Owl order, Lodge No. 1149, at Clinton, Indiana, where he is now making his home. He has always followed mining as his occupation, with the exception of about one month when he took a position as a railroad carpenter. The work, however, in the latter place was not to his liking, so he returned to the mines and is now engineer at Oak Hill mine No. 1, a position where he has served for four years. Mr. VanSickle is a competent engineer. He is active in all of the public movements in his community, and a man whose calm judgment and unprejudiced decision has made him popular with his friends and neighbors.

---

### BENJAMIN F. LANG.

One of the best known citizens and representative business men of Dana, Vermillion county, is Benjamin F. Lang, who has maintained a grocery store there for the past twenty years and who during that period has done much toward the upbuilding of the town, being a man of public spirit and unselfish motives, desiring the general good and assisting his fellow townsmen while laboring for his own advancement. He bears an unblemished reputation and therefore has always enjoyed the good will and confidence of those who have had dealings with him in a business or social way.

Mr. Lang was born July 11, 1851, at Rockville, Parke county, and he is a son of Joshua and Susan (McKnight) Lang. The father was born in Ohio, and when a young man he removed to Indiana, and his death occurred in Parke county, where he had long resided, in 1896. The mother of the subject was born in Scotland and from that country emigrated to America when a girl, here grew to womanhood, met and married Mr. Lang, and her death occurred in 1867, thus preceding her husband to the grave by nearly thirty years. Joshua Lang engaged in the brick manufacturing business, being the first man to make brick in the town of Rockville. Early in life he taught school several years. His family consisted of eight children, five of whom are still living.

Benjamin F. Lang grew to manhood in Rockville and there he received his education in the common schools. He was married to Sarah McMaster, who was born January 2, 1856. To the subject and wife eight children have been born, five of whom are still living, namely: Gertrude, Lawrence, Grace, Ethel and Walter.

Mr. Lang began life for himself as a railroader, following that with



success for a period of six years and was climbing up in that line of endeavor rapidly when he decided to abandon the road and take up a more peaceful pursuit; consequently he turned his attention to merchandising, and for the last twenty years he has been engaged in the grocery business at the town of Dana, during which time he has enjoyed a large and constantly growing trade with the town and surrounding country. He has a large, well stocked store, and owns a commodious dwelling and other valuable property in Dana. In politics he is a Democrat, and he belongs to the Odd Fellows at Dana.

---

### WILLIAM JARDINE.

One of the most reliable young miners of whom Vermillion county can boast is William Jardine, a typical Scotchman, whose industry and sterling integrity have made him a valuable man to the company with which he is connected near Clinton. The Scotch have been unusually successful in the work in the mines, both in this and the old country. They have a pride in their work for the work's sake, and their persistence and natural ability have placed them in positions of responsibility and trust. Their strong physique is also a big asset and they bring to their work a great force, which they seem to have gained direct from Mother Earth.

Mr. Jardine's father, Alex. Jardine, was born in Scotland, in Dumfriesshire, in 1838. His mother, Martha (Steven) Jardine, was born January 28, 1847, and is still living, having her residence in Clinton, Indiana. Alex. Jardine was a shepherd, a man who knew nature in all her moods, and loved the hills where he tended his flocks. He gave the boy many valuable lessons of life there in his natural pursuits, and the memory of the gruff but kindly shepherd will stay with William Jardine in all his work. There were eleven children, seven of whom are still living.

William Jardine was born January 17, 1882, in Cumberland, England. The family moved to Scotland when he was eight days old. He received a common school education in that country, and spent his leisure time wandering about the hills with his father or watching the fascinating work in the nearby mines. At the age of twelve years he went to work in the mines, and has been in them ever since. His first experience in the mines was in Lanarkshire, Scotland, with the Palace Coal Company at Hamilton, the model colliery of Scotland. He began at the bottom and his progress has

been steadily up the ladder until he has, since he has been in this country, held some of the highest positions in the mine.

In 1908 Mr. Jardine came to the United States and started to work in the mines at Salina, Pennsylvania. He only stayed there two months, however, and came on to Indiana, settling near Clinton, Vermillion county, Indiana, where he immediately identified himself with the Clinton Coal Company at mine No. 3. He next worked at No. 8 and then in the Klondike mine, from which he went back to No. 8, leaving No. 8 to go to Bunsen since September, 1911. It is because men like Mr. Jardine, who have come to this country to find increased opportunities and an equal chance for everyone, and have seen how much is needed here before that condition prevails; it is because these men have not ceased to believe that their hopes can be realized, that socialism is having such a phenomenal growth. To such men this country owes much.

---

#### JOHN R. MC. MILLER.

The subject of this sketch is known as one of the best farmers of Raccoon township, Parke county, where he has spent most of his life, he being a descendant of two of our worthy pioneer families, members of which played no inconspicuous part in the development of this section of the country and it has been to such as they that the country owes its debt of gratitude. All honor is due to the men who were willing to make the sacrifices necessary to prepare the wilderness for the success and comfort of coming generations.

John R. Mc. Miller was born on February 9, 1849, one mile below his present home in Raccoon township, Parke county, Indiana, on the farm which his maternal grandfather, Jimmy Crabb, developed from the virgin soil. He is a son of John B. and Nancy (Crabb) Miller. The father was also a native of this township and county, the Miller family having been among the earliest settlers here. The mother of the subject was born in Ohio. These parents received such public school instruction as those early times afforded, and they spent their lives engaged in general farming, and were the parents of three children, namely: James C., J. T. H., and John R. Mc., of this sketch.

John R. Mc. Miller grew to manhood on the home farm and there assisted his father with the general work, finding plenty to do in helping reclaim the farm from the wild state. He received a limited education in the common schools. On October 6, 1872, he was married to Delia J. Paine.

who was born in Clay county, Indiana, October 19, 1846, and there she grew to womanhood and received a public school education. She is a daughter of Joseph and Julia (Webster) Paine, her parents having spent their lives in Clay county, both being now deceased.

Four children have been born to our subject and wife, namely: Harvey, who married Hattie Ray, and they live in Parke county; T. Howard is single and is living at home; Grace married Harley Boatman, and they live in Rosedale, this county; Florence married Homer Wood, and they also live in Parke county.

Mr. Miller engaged in farming when a young man, then moved to Terre Haute, where he spent ten years successfully engaged in the shoe business, but finally, tiring of city life, he returned to the farm, where he has remained, being now the owner of one hundred and ninety-two acres of well improved and productive land in Raccoon township; he also owns with his brother forty acres in Clay county. He keeps part of his land rented out, but still lives on his place and has a cozy home and is very comfortably established.

---

#### EDWIN G. McCORMACK.

Having always led a life along lines of sobriety, industry and integrity, Edwin G. McCormack, one of the best known business men of Perrysville, Vermillion county, has become one of the influential men of his community whose interests he has ever had at heart and sought to promote, along moral, educational and material lines, thereby winning and retaining the good will and friendship of all who know him.

Mr. McCormack was born on July 3, 1864, in Perrysville, Indiana, and here he has been content to spend his life, having always had faith in the town's future. He is a son of Smith and Sarah (Baldwin) McCormack. The father was born in Danville, Illinois, in 1837 and his death occurred in 1903. The mother was born in Canada, from which country she came to the United States when a small girl. She is still residing in Danville, Illinois. She received a good education and in her younger years taught school for some time. Smith McCormack spent his life principally in the butcher business, maintaining a shop in Perrysville, Indiana, many years, in which town his father, James McCormack, was also engaged in the butcher business. Thus the subject came by his vocation quite naturally, having literally grown up in the butcher business. The McCormack family has been one

of the most influential and best known of Perrysville's citizens. Eight children were born to Smith McCormack and wife, three of whom are still living.

On November 24, 1887, Edwin G. McCormack was united in marriage to Anna L. Smith, who was born on August 2, 1866, at Covington, Indiana, and, like the subject, she received a common school education. To this union three children have been born, namely: Jeanette, who married Floyd Graham, is living at the village of Gessie, this county, where he is employed as telegraph operator; Gertrude is teaching school; Sarah is at home.

Mr. McCormack has always been engaged in the butcher business. He was in partnership with his father until about 1889, and in February, 1899, he and N. R. Smith formed a partnership, buying out Mr. McCormack, senior, which continued until, in February, 1900, the subject purchased the interest of Mr. Smith and since then has been operating his shop alone, having the only shop in Perrysville. He has built up a very extensive and lucrative patronage and his customers come from all over the township. He owns the building where he maintains his modernly equipped shop, also his home and ninety acres of rich and well improved bottom land. He also owns a slaughter-house and does his own butchering. He has been very successful in a business way.

Politically, Mr. McCormack is a Republican, but is not an active worker in the ranks. He belongs to the Woodmen lodge at Gessie.

---

#### PATRICK WELCH.

Inheriting the thrifty characteristics of the Celtic race, whose blood flows in his veins, Patrick Welch, a well known farmer of Helt township, Vermillion county, has succeeded at his chosen calling, having worked earnestly and honestly for what he today possesses, asking no man to do either his work or his planning. He is a man who believes in attending strictly to his own affairs, but he is at the same time neighborly and lends his support in the furtherance of those objects which make for the general good of the locality.

Mr. Welch was born in Vermillion county, Indiana, March 16, 1855, and he is a son of Robert and Bridget (Maher) Welch, both natives of county Waterford, Ireland, where they spent their earlier years, received their educational training and were married, and from there they emigrated to America, landing in New York City. In 1860 they established the per-



manent home of the family in Vermillion county, Indiana, and here they spent the rest of their lives. They were the parents of five children, namely: John, Johanna, Mary, James, and Patrick, of this sketch, who is the youngest of the family.

Patrick Welch grew to manhood in his native locality and received his education in the schools of Montezuma, then took up general farming, which he has continued with ever-increasing success to the present time.

Mr. Welch was married in 1875 to Margaret McAuliff, daughter of William and Bridget (French) McAuliff, both natives of Ireland, the father having been born in county Cork and the mother in county Waterford. They spent their earlier years in their native land, but came to this section of Indiana in a very early day, when the country was wild and Indians still plentiful. Mr. McAuliff lacked only two months of being one hundred years old when he died. He became very well established in the new world and was popular among the pioneers. Four children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Welch, namely: William J., Mary, Robert L. and Margaret.

Politically, Mr. Welch is a Democrat, and while he has always been more or less interested in public and political events, he has never sought to be a leader in party affairs, and has never been a candidate for public office, preferring to devote his attention to his farming and to his family, and he has therefore become well fixed. He is a stanch member of the Catholic church and a liberal supporter of the same.

---

#### WILLIAM F. PEER.

One of the useful citizens of Helt township and one of her most scientific husbandmen is William F. Peer, a man who takes infinite pains with that which he deems worth while and this trait, together with those that always win when rightly applied, has resulted in a large measure of success attending his efforts all through his active life and today he is the owner of a splendidly improved and productive farm and a good, comfortable home.

Mr. Peer was born in Vermillion county, Indiana, July 13, 1858, and is a son of John and Matilda (Cruseau) Peer, the father a native of Indiana and the mother of Ohio, and he is living about a mile southwest of the subject, the mother being deceased. John Peer has devoted his life to farming and has been very successful. His family consisted of eleven children, ten of whom are still living.

William F. Peer was married August 29, 1882, to Elizabeth Bradberry, who was born in Illinois in June, 1858, and her death occurred on December 24, 1908, after a happy married life of over a quarter of a century. She was a good, industrious woman, and reared her children very carefully. To William F. Peer and wife were born five children, named in order of birth as follows: Angy married Charles Parr, and they live with the subject on the farm; Claude has remained single; Ethel married Ed. Dickson, and they live in Illinois; Oakey married Ed. Scott, a carpenter, and they also live in Illinois; Paul, the youngest, is at home.

Mr. Peer, as stated, has always devoted his energies to general farming and stock raising, and he is now the owner of an excellent place consisting of one hundred and sixty acres in a choice section of Helt township; it is all tillable land and he has made all the improvements on the same, it being well tiled, well fenced and the dwelling and outbuildings all in first class condition. A good grade of live stock is to be seen in his fields, and he is making a very comfortable living and laying by for "rainy days" ahead which must come in every life.

Politically, Mr. Peer is a Democrat, but has never been a public man, and religiously he belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church.

---

#### SAMUEL STAATS.

No more painstaking farmer is to be found in Vermillion county than Samuel Staats. He was taught to be painstaking and to have system about his work when he was a boy and he has never lost sight of that valuable admonishing, so it is no wonder that marked success has attended his efforts in his chosen field of endeavor, and, having managed well and been persistent, he is deserving of what he has attained in a material way.

Mr. Staats was born on June 6, 1849, on the farm where he is still residing, near Dana, Vermillion county, Indiana, and is a son of Joseph and Sarah (Cummins) Staats. The father was born May 3, 1801, in West Virginia, and there he grew to manhood, was educated and married, his wife having also been a native of West Virginia, born March 13, 1805. There they resided until after their first two children were born, coming to Indiana in January, 1820. Joseph Staats was a minister in the Methodist Episcopal church. He was popular in his denomination and did a great deal of good among the pioneers. He was justice of the peace for two terms and was

known for his fairness to all parties. His wife died on May 10, 1889, and his passing followed three months later, August 31st. Twelve children were born to these parents, three of whom are still living.

Samuel Staats, the youngest son, grew to manhood on the home farm which the father settled and received a good common school education. On August 15, 1883, he married Claribel Ford, who was born November 30, 1852, in Indiana, a daughter of Valentine Ford. She also received a good education and followed teaching for a period of sixteen years with much success, her services being in great demand.

Samuel Staats and wife have an adopted daughter, Edna, who married Ivan Hill. They live a half mile southeast of where the subject lives. Mr. Hill is an energetic farmer.

Mr. Staats has always been a farmer and succeeding years have found him farther advanced all the while; however, early in life, he clerked in a store in Terre Haute one year. He is the owner of one hundred and twenty acres of excellent and well improved land, all tillable but about fifteen acres, which are in pasture. His farm is well tiled; in fact, one of the best improved farms in the township, as well as one of the best equipped and most modern homes.

Mr. Staats has been a life-long Republican, but is progressive in politics, and he belongs to the Knights of Pythias at Dana. He attends the Methodist church.

---

#### FRANK SPENCER.

One of the citizens of Parke county who has shown that he is able to succeed at various callings is Frank Spencer, now engaged in general farming and stock raising in Greene township. The family of which he is a very creditable representative is one of the old and highly respected ones of this vicinity, which they have lived to see develop from a wild state to one of the foremost farming communities in the Wabash region, and they have not only helped in the material development of the same, but have supported all measures looking to the moral and educational and civic betterment of the township and county.

Mr. Spencer was born on March 6, 1873, in this township and county, and is a son of George W. and Mary (Clark) Spencer. The father was also born in Greene township, Parke county, Indiana, and here grew to manhood, received such education as the early schools afforded and has here spent his

life, successfully engaged in farming, and is still living in his native locality, but is now living retired. His wife, who also was a native of this county, born in 1843, died on October 3, 1912. Ten children were born to these parents, all still living but one.

Frank Spencer grew up on the homestead and assisted his father with the general work there, and in the winter time he attended the common schools. On August 30, 1898, he was united in marriage to Ellen Johnson, who was born on August 30, 1874, in Parke county, on the farm now owned by the subject. Here she grew to womanhood and received a common school education. She is a daughter of James and Matilda (Lanning) Johnson. To the subject and wife four children have been born, namely: Dorothy A., born September 7, 1899; Raymond, born August 1, 1901; Robert, born January 11, 1907, and one who died in infancy.

Mr. Spencer in his early life followed farming and also taught school awhile, then tried railroading for some time as telegrapher on the Cincinnati, Hamilton & Dayton railroad, at Milligan. After leaving the road he resumed farming, which he has continued successfully to the present day, being now owner of one hundred acres, seventy-five of which are tillable, in Greene township, Parke county. It is well tiled and otherwise modernly improved, and he has a good home.

Mr. Spencer is a Democrat, but is not especially active in party affairs, and in religious matters he attends the Christian church.

---

### JESSE H. RUSSELL.

One of the most highly respected citizens of Parke county, Indiana, lives in Liberty township, near Kingman, Indiana; he is a member of the Friends church and has always stood high in the church, in his work in the community, and in the regard of his friends and neighbors. His experience has been extensive in that part of the country and his reputation as an excellent farmer is wide. He is Jesse H. Russell, a man of highest integrity and ability, one of the most reliable citizens of Liberty township.

Of Jesse H. Russell's ancestors this much is known: Joseph Russell emigrated from Ireland to Maryland and later moved from there to Pennsylvania. Except of one son, Hugh, there is nothing known of his wife and family. Hugh married, but the name of his wife is not known, and to them were born three children, Hugh again being the name of the only son. He



married Mary Ann Sill, whose father also had emigrated from Ireland, and to this union were born nine children, Hugh F. being the seventh child.

Hugh F. Russell was born in Ohio, moving to this state when he was very small. When he became of age he settled on a farm in Parke county, and was very successful as a farmer. He died in January, 1909. The mother of Jesse H. Russell was Elizabeth (Shoop) Russell, who was a native of Parke county, Indiana, and died in 1877. She became the wife of Hugh F. Russell on October 16, 1851. They had eight children, six of whom are now living, Jesse H. being the second in order of birth.

Jesse H. Russell was born on October 17, 1853, in Sugar Creek township, Parke county, Indiana. He spent his early life on the farm in much the same manner as the majority of youths on Indiana farms in those days—going to the common schools, helping with the farm work outside of school hours and during vacation seasons, and joining the healthy out-of-doors sports which appeal to American youth. After finishing school he turned his attention to agriculture as his work.

Mr. Russell was married on April 11, 1880, to Martha Kennedy. In 1887 she died, and later, on March 16, 1892, he married Lydia E. Hodson, who was born in Hendricks county, Indiana, May 3, 1863. She received a common school education in Liberty township, No. 1 school. Mrs. Russell's father was in the Civil war, answering the call for volunteers with other brave and loyal Northern men. Jesse H. Russell had six children, two by his first and four by his second wife. Leroy is dead, but Nora, Letha V., John, Hester and Lola LaVern are living.

Mr. Russell has always devoted himself to his family and his work, and his industry and good management have been well rewarded. He owns sixty acres of land in Liberty township of the most productive ground, which he keeps in the very best of condition. He also has an interest in two hundred and eighty acres of good land. Mr. Russell has made all of the improvements on his place himself, and has one of the best equipped farms in the county. Jesse H. Russell is one of the best known and most respected men in Parke county, as he has always proved himself a kindly neighbor and friend, and given many the benefit of his good judgment and well balanced mental habit on many propositions of both personal and public importance. Mr. Russell is a Republican, speaking politically, and he has always stood earnestly and honestly by his convictions. Such men, working in their own immediate circles, do much for the establishing of every righteous cause and the bringing about of reforms of which the nation as a whole stands in need.

## JOHN A. TOLIN.

Although now living in honorable retirement in his commodious and pleasant home in the beautiful city of Rockville, John A. Tolin has long been regarded as one of the most enterprising and public spirited citizens of Parke county, and his name needs no introduction to the readers of this work. He was for many years prominently identified with the agricultural interests of the county, also widely known as a stock raiser on an extensive scale. He has always manifested an abiding interest in the public welfare of his community. His long life has been a most active one in every respect, and has resulted in much good to his fellow men and the community at large, throughout which he is held in the highest esteem which he well merits in every way.

Mr. Tolin was born near Cloverdale, Putnam county, Indiana, July 16, 1848. His parents were Richard J. and Rebecca (Mark) Tolin. The father was born in Kentucky and the mother was also a native of the Blue Grass state, each representing fine old Southern families, and there these parents grew to maturity and were educated and spent their earlier years. Richard J. Tolin came to Putnam county, Indiana, with his father, A. B. Tolin, in an early day and there the latter spent the rest of his life, dying in 1880, and was buried at Brick Chapel church, that county. Richard J. Tolin removed to Kansas, where he spent the rest of his life, dying there in 1893, at the age of seventy-three years, having been preceded to the grave by his wife about a year before. They became the parents of seven children, three of whom are now living, John A., of this review, and Henry and James Tolin, both living in Kansas.

John A. Tolin spent his boyhood on the home farm in Putnam county, Indiana, and from there he removed with his father to Kansas in 1863, he being then about fifteen years of age, and he received most of his education in the North East Kansas Seminary, in Jackson county. He returned to Indiana in 1874, after teaching school several years in the Sunflower state. He continued teaching for a time after coming to Indiana, teaching in all six or seven years. He was very successful in this line of endeavor and had he desired to continue in the same he would doubtless have become one of our most popular educators. But he turned his attention to general farming and in due course of time became one of the leading agriculturists and stock men, carrying on general farming on a large scale and becoming the owner of a valuable and productive farm of over five hundred acres in Florida township, this county, which he brought up to a high state of improvement and

cultivation. He also owns fifty acres of good land adjoining the town of Rockville, besides a valuable property in Rockville, consisting of a fine modern home. He has worked hard and managed well.

Mr. Tolin was married on October 3, 1877, to Louisa M. Johnson, a native of Parke county, Indiana, being the daughter of a highly esteemed old family here. To this union four children have been born, two of whom are deceased, namely: Glenn is cashier of the bank at Pittsboro, Indiana, in which he and his father own the controlling stock, and he makes his home in that city; George works on the farm; Willard died about three years ago; one child died in infancy.

Mr. Tolin retired from active farm life and removed to Rockville in 1904 and here he has since lived a quiet life.

The subject and wife are both members of the Methodist Episcopal church, he being one of the stewards of the same and is a trustee of the church and cemetery at Mt. Pleasant church, which is in the neighborhood of his farm in Florida township. Fraternally, he belongs to the Knights of Pythias at Mecca. He is a man of pleasing address, obliging, charitable and neighborly, and has always been held in the highest esteem by his wide circle of friends.

---

#### EDWARD F. McCAMAN.

The gentleman to a review of whose life and characteristics the reader's attention is herewith respectfully invited is among the progressive citizens of Helt township, Vermillion county, who by energy and correct methods has not only achieved success for himself, but has also contributed in a very material way to the commercial, civic and moral advancement of his place of residence, for he has ever been an advocate of right living and industrious habits. In the course of an honorable career Mr. McCaman has established himself in a liberally remunerative enterprise and won the confidence and esteem of his fellow citizens during the years of his residence here since coming from his native state of Illinois quite awhile ago.

Edward F. McCaman was born in the state of Illinois, January 15, 1863, and he is a son of Tillman and Sarah (Myers) McCaman, both of whom were born in Kentucky, in which state they spent their earlier years and from which place they emigrated to Illinois in an early day. There they became well established through their industry and frugality and there they reared their family, the following children having been born to them: John,

Nancy, Harry, Ephraim R., Stephen, George, Edward F., of this sketch; and Rosa, who was the youngest in order of birth. The father of the above named children followed farming all his life and both he and his wife are now deceased, leaving behind them records of worthy lives.

Edward F. McCaman grew to manhood on the home farm and there he assisted with the regular work when he became of proper age, and during the winter months he attended the rural schools in his neighborhood, receiving a good practical education in that manner. In 1888 he was married to Alda MacRoberts, daughter of Alfred and Mary O. (Fisher) MacRoberts, a highly respected family of their community. Both Mrs. McCaman's parents were born in Kentucky, where they spent the early part of their lives, but came to Vermillion county, Indiana, in an early day and here became useful citizens. One child has been born to the subject and wife, Homer T. McCaman, who lives at home.

Mr. McCaman has long taken much interest in public life, and in 1908 he was elected trustee of Helt township, being the present incumbent of that office, and, having been re-elected, his term will not expire until 1914. He is giving the utmost satisfaction in this office. Fraternally, he belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, at St. Bernice, Indiana, also the Rebekahs and the Encampment, and the Ben-Hur lodge at Clinton, also the Modern Woodmen of America at the town of St. Bernice. He is prominent in fraternal circles in this section of the state. Religiously, he belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church and liberally supports the same.

---

#### CAPT. SAMUEL J. HALL.

The Union soldier during the great war between the states builded wiser than he knew. Through four years of suffering and wasting hardships, through the horrors of prison pens and amid the shadows of death, he laid the superstructure of the greatest temple ever erected and dedicated to human freedom. The world looked on and called those soldiers sublime, for it was theirs to reach out the mighty arm power and strike the galling chains from off the slave, preserve the country from dissolution, and to keep unfurled to the breeze the only flag that ever made tyrants tremble and whose majestic stripes and scintillating stars are still waving liberty to all the earth. For all these unmeasured deeds the living present will never repay them. Pension and political power may be thrown at their feet, art and sculpture may pre-



serve upon canvas and in granite and bronze their unselfish deeds; history may commit to books and cold type may give to the future the tale of their sufferings and triumphs; but to the children of the generations yet unborn will it remain to accord the full measure of appreciation and undying remembrance of the immortal character carved out by the American soldiers in the dark days of the early sixties, numbered among whom was Capt. Samuel J. Hall, one of the largest land owners and most substantial agriculturists of Vermillion county, where he has spent his long, industrious and useful life, coming down to us from the pioneer days, his family having been among the sterling early settlers here, and he has ever had the interests of his locality very much at heart, seeking to promote them upon all occasions, and he is therefore well known and highly esteemed.

Captain Hall was born in Vermillion township, Vermillion county, Indiana, on April 13, 1835, and is a son of William B. and Nancy (Jordon) Hall. The father was born in Virginia in 1799. In early life he came to Kentucky and after remaining there a short time he came on to Indiana, first locating in Parke county, remaining at the village of Montezuma a few years, then moved over into Vermillion township, this county, and established the family home on a farm, which lies just east of that now owned by his son, Samuel J., of this review, having come here in the year 1835, and became the owner of a valuable farm of four hundred and forty acres. He devoted his life to farming and met with a larger measure of success than falls to the average man. His death occurred here on December 10, 1863.

Captain Hall grew to manhood on the home farm and assisted with the general work when a boy, and he received his primary education in the common schools of his community. When the Civil war came on he enlisted for service on October 9, 1861, raising Company I, of which he was elected captain, and they were assigned to the Forty-third Indiana Volunteer Infantry. He was later elected colonel of the regiment, after it was veteranized, but was never commissioned and served until the close of the war as captain in a manner that was most faithful and gallant, according to his comrades. He was in the far South in the Seventh Army Corps, serving most of the time in Mississippi. He was in the battle of New Madrid and Ruddles Point, there capturing a force of four thousand men, then participated in the siege of Fort Pillow for fifty-six days. In 1862 he assisted in the capture of Memphis, Tennessee, assisting the gunboats. He was then in the skirmish at Helena, Arkansas, and on July 4, 1863, was in the battle there. Later they went to Little Rock, where there was a battle. He was then on the Red River expedition with General Steele's army, that trip re-

quiring twenty-six days, and there was a fight every day. He then went to Pine Bluff, Arkansas, and was in the fight at Marks Mills, where the brigade in which Captain Hall served was captured, also four hundred wagons, only twenty-six men, Captain Hall and one lieutenant escaping. They returned to Little Rock. In the fighting at Helena, Captain Hall led a charge and captured Colonel Bell of the Southern forces. For his gallant conduct there he got thirty days' leave of absence, his release being signed by General Grant. After returning to the army, the subject was appointed post adjutant of Little Rock, Arkansas, later coming home on a veteran furlough, leaving Little Rock in June, 1864. He came to Terre Haute and while en route his regiment was sent into Kentucky after General Morgan, the Confederate raider, so before coming on to Terre Haute he joined in the chase in Kentucky. After the expiration of his thirty days' furlough he went to Indianapolis and did guard duty, after which he returned home and resumed farming, which he has continued from that time to the present, also has devoted considerable attention to stock raising and shipping, the center of his stock buying and selling being at Edgewood, on his large farm. He is the owner of eight hundred and fifty acres of well improved and valuable land, seven hundred acres of which lie in Vermillion township, the balance in Eugene township. He rents his land, but oversees it in a general way. He has made all the improvements on his place, and they are modern, and everything denotes thrift, good management and excellent taste. He has one of the finest homes in this and adjoining counties, which is in the midst of attractive surroundings, and there are many large and substantial outbuildings on his land. He is an exceptionally good judge of live stock and always keeps an excellent grade and large numbers. He has been very successful as an agriculturist and stock man and has accumulated a handsome competency for his declining years.

Captain Hall was married in 1867 to Elizabeth Head, daughter of Francis and Emeline (Lucas) Head, early settlers of Vermillion county and long a prominent family here. Mr. Head operated a woolen factory here many years. He was a native of New Hampshire. The union of the subject and wife has been without issue.

Politically, the Captain has always been a stanch Republican. He was for a number of years land appraiser of this county, his principal duties being to appraise land for school funds. He is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, Kenesaw Post, at Danville. Personally, he is a gentleman of kindly impulses and genial address and he numbers his friends only by the limits of his acquaintance.

## JOHN HENDERSON.

John Henderson was born in Vermillion township, Vermillion county, Indiana, August 20, 1831. He is a son of William and Anna (Hayworth) Henderson, and a grandson of Richard Henderson, a native of South Carolina, from which state he moved to Clinton county, Ohio, where he raised his family, moving to this county in 1824. He entered land from the government and, through hard work, developed a good farm, and here our subject's father spent his life engaged in agricultural pursuits, his death occurring in March, 1857. He also conducted a tannery for many years during the early days. He owned the farm on which the subject now lives, a part of the homestead, he having become one of the substantial farmers of the county, owning eight hundred acres of good land at the time of his death, which land was divided among his children, there having been six in his family, namely: Maria is deceased; John, of this sketch; Rachael, deceased; Richard, deceased; Cicily and William F., also deceased, the subject being the last survivor of the family. The father, William Henderson, was a Whig in early life until the Republican party was formed in 1856, when he identified himself with it. He was never an office seeker, though in the early days he was township trustee and clerk of the school board. He and his father were members of the Friends church. The maternal grandfather was also a member of that denomination. The ancestors on both sides of the house were Quakers as far back as known.

John Henderson grew to manhood on the home farm and there worked hard when a boy. He received a meager education in the old log school house that stood near his home, later attended a monthly meeting school at their church, and he spent eleven weeks at Bloomingdale Academy, also attended the Vermillion Academy at Vermillion Grove, Illinois, three winters. He began life by teaching school in the winter time and farming during the summer months. He has devoted his life to farming with the exception of one year, when he had charge of White's Manual Labor Institute near Wabash, Indiana. He has been very successful in his vocation and is now the owner of a productive and well improved farm of two hundred and fifty acres, where he has carried on general farming and stock raising and still oversees the place, but keeps a tenant. He has a comfortable dwelling and large, convenient outbuildings.

Mr. Henderson was twice married, first to Harmony Allen, of Parke county, Indiana, and to this union one child was born, Foster A., who is deceased. In 1870 Mr. Henderson was united in marriage to Dinah Towell,

of Sylvania, Parke county, this state, a daughter of George Towell and wife, who were very early settlers in that county. Her father died at the village of Marshall at the advanced age of ninety-six years. An aunt of Mrs. Henderson is one hundred and one years old, and is in pretty good health.

Mr. Henderson is a Prohibitionist in politics. He was county surveyor for two terms. He is president of the board of trustees of Collett Home for poor children of the county, and has done much toward making this institution a pronounced success. It has over two hundred acres of land and sixty thousand dollars are on deposit for its maintenance.

---

### E. H. SPELLMAN.

In the subject of this sketch we have a representative of one of the worthy old pioneer families and one who is recognized as a leading farmer of Vermillion county, owning and operating at this time a well improved farm of great value in Vermillion township. He is regarded by all who know him as being a most capable and energetic man, broad minded and sound in his business principles.

E. H. Spellman was born in Livingston county, Illinois, May 19, 1870. He is a son of Henry and Mollie (Scott) Spellman, who spent their lives engaged successfully in general farming pursuits. The father is now living retired in the town of Newport, Vermillion county, Indiana. The mother was called to her eternal rest when the subject was young.

Three children were born to Henry Spellman and wife, named in order of birth as follows: Stella, Clara (deceased), E. H., of this sketch.

E. H. Spellman grew to manhood on the home farm and when a boy he assisted his father with the general work about the place during the crop seasons, attending the district schools in the winter months. In February, 1887, when he was seventeen years of age Mr. Spellman came to Vermillion county, Indiana, locating in Vermillion township, and here he has since remained engaged in general farming and stock raising, and he has been very successful, being now the owner of a finely improved and productive farm of one hundred and sixty acres, nearly all under cultivation. Here he carries on general farming and stock raising. He is a good judge of live stock and no small part of his competency has been derived from the judicious handling of stock. He has a pleasant home and good outbuildings.



Mr. Spellman was married in 1892 to Frances Rice, daughter of William Rice, a native of New Albany, Indiana, and he grew to manhood and was educated in the southern part of the state. He was by trade a shoemaker and is now deceased. One child, Cecil, has been born to the subject and wife.

Mr. Spellman is a Republican, but has never been an office seeker. Fraternally, he belongs to the Masonic order, Lodge No. 242, at Newport. He has done considerable remodeling about his place, and it is now in ship shape in every respect. He has a good automobile, of late model, and is fixed to enjoy life.

---

#### HUGH H. CONLEY.

Indiana has been especially honored in the character and career of her professional and public men. In every county there are to be found, rising above their fellows, individuals born to leadership, men who dominate not alone by superior intelligence and natural endowment, but by force of character which minimizes discouragements and dares great undertakings. Such men are by no means rare in the famous Wabash valley, and it is always profitable to study their lives, weigh their motives and hold up their achievements as incentives to greater activity and higher excellence on the part of others just entering upon their struggles with the world. Such thoughts are prompted by a study of the life record of Hugh H. Conley, of Newport, Vermillion county, lawyer, soldier and public-spirited citizen, who for a period of over a quarter of a century has been a leader in the affairs of this locality whose interests he has ever had at heart and sought to promote.

Mr. Conley was born in Vermillion county, Indiana, January 14, 1843, the scion of a sterling pioneer family, members of which have played no inconspicuous role in the development of the county from a wilderness to its advanced condition of today. He is a son of Elijah and Nancy (Downing) Conley. The father was born in 1798, and the mother's birth occurred in Delaware in 1798. Elijah Conley was a shoemaker by trade and he came to this locality in the early days, establishing the permanent home of the family. The mother came to Vermillion county as early as 1819, she and her family being among the very earliest settlers here. Seven children were born to Elijah Conley and wife, namely: Mary, Jane, Phoebe, William W., all deceased; Jonathan died in infancy; Elijah P. is living in Huntington, Indiana, though formerly engaged in merchandising in Clinton; Hugh H.,

of this sketch, being the youngest. The death of the father of the above named children occurred in December, 1845, the mother surviving until September 5, 1888.

Hugh H. Conley was educated in the common schools of his native community, later spending a short time in Terre Haute at the State Normal School. He began life for himself as a teacher, which he followed with marked success for a period of twelve years, mostly in Vermillion county, his services having been in great demand. He had been reading law for some time while teaching, and when he left the school room he entered an office where he continued the study of law, and, making rapid progress, was admitted to the bar in 1877 in Newport, and from that date to the present time he has been successfully engaged in practice in this county, spending three years at Clinton, the balance of the time at Newport. He has figured prominently in the noted cases that have come up in the local courts during that long period, winning a position in the front rank of attorneys in this section of the state, having remained a deep student of legal science and kept fully abreast of the times. He has built up a very extensive and lucrative practice. While he lived in Clinton he was county superintendent of schools for three years. He has also served as prosecuting attorney of the twenty-first judicial circuit for two terms, or four years, and he served as a member of the school board for many years. He is a Republican in politics and has long been active in the ranks. As a public servant he gave eminent satisfaction in every respect.

On September 9, 1862, Mr. Conley enlisted as a recruit in Company C, Eighteenth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and was sent into the Western army, serving through the Vicksburg campaign, later in Texas in 1863 and 1864. Then served with Sheridan in the Shenandoah valley campaign, and was wounded at the battle of Cedar Creek. He was sent to the hospital on October 19, 1864, and remained there until in May, 1865. He was in the hospital at Indianapolis, also at Germantown, near Philadelphia, having had the smallpox when at the former. He was honorably discharged from the service on May 24, 1865, after a very faithful and commendable record for the Union.

Mr. Conley was married to Mary A. Saunders on September 9, 1874, and five children were born to this union, namely: Lulu M. died in infancy; Paul H. is living at Lawrenceville, Indiana, where he is engaged in the automobile business; however, he was formerly a law partner with his father for a period of ten years; Carl H. is engaged in missionary work at Nadiad, India, having charge of the industrial school there, but he was formerly a civil

engineer; William Bert, who is a lawyer and in partnership with his father, married Ethel Halstead, of Brazil, Indiana; Edith Alice is at home. The sons of the subject were all educated at Depauw University, Greencastle, Indiana, and William B. attended the law department of the University of Indiana, at Bloomington. The daughter was educated at the Woman's College at Jacksonville, Illinois, where she graduated in voice and piano music.

On June 28, 1894, Mr. Conley was united in marriage to Margaret A. Maloney, daughter of Patrick and Margaret Maloney, both natives of Ireland. Mrs. Conley was born in Louisville, Kentucky, July 5, 1862. To this union two children have been born, namely: Mark M., who died when two years old, and Margaret, who is at home.

Mr. Conley was formerly a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Knights of Pythias. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and has always been officially connected with the church, for years being superintendent of the Sunday school. His son, the missionary, is representing this denomination.

Mr. Conley is the owner of one hundred and twenty acres of valuable and well improved land in Helt township, Vermillion county, the place where his early boyhood was spent. He keeps his farm rented, but has kept it in first class condition. He has maintained a pleasant home in Newport since 1877, since which time he has done much for the general upbuilding of the town and won the good will and esteem of all who know him.

---

#### MARVIN H. CASE.

Fame may look to the clash of resounding arms for its heroes; history's pages may be filled with the record of the deeds of the so-called great who have deluged the world with blood, destroyed kingdoms, created dynasties and left their names as plague spots upon civilization's escutcheon; the poet may embalm in deathless song the short and simple annals of the poor; but there have been comparatively few to sound the praise of the brave and sturdy pioneer, who among the truly great and noble is certainly deserving of perpetuation on the category of the immortals. To him more than to any other is civilization indebted for the brightest jewel in its diadem, for it was he who blazed the way and acted as vanguard for the mighty army of progress that within the last century has conquered Indiana's wilderness and transformed it into one of the fairest and most enlightened of American commonwealths.



MARVIN H. CASE.





To this sterling class belongs Marvin H. Case and his father before him, the former Parke county's largest land owner and the latter long since a traveler to that "undiscovered bourne from whence no traveler ever returns." The Case family has been one of the most prominent and influential in this locality since the earliest pioneer days, and during the ninety years that they have resided in our midst they have seen the wondrous development of the county and have played a most important part in the same, so that there is particular occasion for giving at least a brief history of the subject of this sketch and his forebears in this work.

M. H. Case was born July 10, 1835, on his present farm in Florida township, Parke county, Indiana, in a log cabin built by his father many years before when he took up life here as a first settler, clearing a small part of the wild land which he secured. The subject is a son of Seba and Mary (Stilson) Case. The father was born in 1794 in New York state, and he came to Indiana among the earliest settlers, locating at Terre Haute, where he remained two years, then moved to Parke county in 1822. He had been reared to manhood in the East and had been educated there. Upon first leaving home he located in Ohio, where he remained two years before coming on to Indiana. He was a man of a great deal of natural ability, the type of man that would succeed in most any environment. He braved the wilds of western Indiana when there were very few white settlers; when the kindreds of the wild were plentiful; when there were few roads and no bridges; when trading posts were far remote; and yet he worked with a will and by sheer grit succeeded, eventually becoming one of the substantial and influential men of his locality. He first operated a saw-mill in Roseville, or more properly on the site where the town of Roseville now stands; later he entered eighty acres from the government. He improved his eighty acres of wild land, and added to it from time to time as he prospered, eventually becoming the owner of a fine farm of five hundred acres, where he remained until his death in 1879. His family consisted of only three children, namely: Horace is deceased; M. H., of this sketch; and Mrs. Eliza King, who is deceased.

M. H. Case was reared to manhood on the old homestead and, being the son of a pioneer and growing up amid early pioneer conditions, he found plenty of hard work to do when a boy, and he assisted his father to clear and improve the homestead and here has spent his long and successful life. He received such education as the early rural schools afforded, and later attended school at Bloomingdale two terms. He has been successful beyond the aver-

age farmer and is now one of the most substantial and best known agriculturists and stock men in Parke county, and, as stated, the largest land owner of the county, his lands aggregating two thousand acres, well located in Florida and Raccoon townships, most of which is under modern improvements and is productive, valuable land. He has always kept an excellent grade of live stock in large numbers, and no small portion of his large competency has been gained in that manner. He has a commodious home, large and convenient outbuildings, and everything about his place denotes thrift, good management and prosperity.

Mr. Case was married in 1863 to Sarah Hartman, and to this union three children have been born, namely: Burt, who has remained single; Seba H., who married Ethel Evans, and they have two children, Max and Marvin; Cora E. is the wife of Fred W. Beal, and they have one child, Roselyn.

Fraternally, Mr. Case is a member of the Masonic order, and one would judge from his upright and obliging, unselfish daily life that he made an honest effort to carry the sublime precepts of this time-honored fraternity into his every-day life. Politically, he is a Democrat, and in 1880 served very acceptably as trustee of Florida township. He has always supported heartily such measures as make for the improvement of his locality.

---

#### B. O. SHERRILL, V. S.

One of the most promising of the younger veterinary surgeons of Vermillion and Parke counties is Dr. B. O. Sherrill, of Newport, who, although not long in the practice, has had a wonderful success and has proven himself not only as the possessor of the many natural attributes that must go to make a success in this exacting profession, but also that he is the master of the most advanced methods practiced by the twentieth-century advocates of this science, and, judging from his past excellent record, the future must needs hold for him much of success.

Dr. Sherrill was born in Boone county, Indiana, October 15, 1882, and he is a son of M. F. and Sarah (Smith) Sherrill, the father a well known and popular minister in the United Brethren church, who is now living at Anapolis, Indiana. The mother was called to her rest in 1912.

Dr. Sherrill was educated in the public schools and he was graduated from the high school at Penfield, Illinois. Having decided to become a vet-

erinary surgeon, he entered the Indiana Veterinary College at Indianapolis, where he made a brilliant record and from which he was graduated with the class of 1908. He at once came to Newport and opened an office and here he has since been successfully engaged in the practice, having met with encouraging success from the first and he has now built up a large and lucrative patronage with the surrounding country, many of his patrons coming from remote localities. On February 21, 1910, he went to Graham's Scientific School of Breeding and was graduated therefrom the same year, this well known institution being located in Kansas City, Missouri.

Dr. Sherrill has been twice married, first in 1902, to Miss Leona Hedge, of Boone county, Indiana, by whom he had one child, Clifton Francis Sherrill, born in 1903, and who now lives in Indianapolis, where he is attending school. Mrs. Sherrill, who was born in 1882, died in 1908. In 1912 Dr. Sherrill was married to Clendore Newlin, daughter of Alfred R. and Elvira (Hutson) Newlin. The father was born in Montezuma, Parke county, Indiana, March 30, 1832, the son of Eli and Mary (Edwards) Newlin. Elvira Newlin was born April 20, 1830, and died on August 23, 1906. Eli Newlin was born in North Carolina, from which state he came to Indiana in 1828, locating in Vermillion county. His family consisted of four children: Zerilda, born in 1829, died in 1830; Verena, the eldest, was born August 23, 1826, died on January 12, 1873; Alfred R., father of Mrs. Sherrill; and Harriet E., born March 13, 1834, died October 17, 1835. The birth of Eli Newlin occurred on March 6, 1804, and he died on July 30, 1872; his wife was born on December 17, 1806, and died on April 18, 1886. Eli Newlin was a farmer in North Carolina in his early life and was sheriff of Vermillion county, where he continued farming. He became justice of the peace, which position he held for many years, being known here to all as Squire Newlin.

Ten children were born to Alfred R. Newlin and wife, namely: Elvira and Elmira, twins, the former born October 26, 1852, and the latter October 27, 1852; Mary F., born June 9, 1855, died November 20, 1861; Margaret A., born November 21, 1856, died April 7, 1895; Finettie, born June 14, 1858, died July 26, 1894; Eli, born September 6, 1860, died December 23, 1862; Joseph A., born February 25, 1864; Lewis A., born December 27, 1865; Robert A., born November 12, 1869; Clendore, wife of Dr. Sherrill, born March 4, 1874, was the tenth and youngest child.

Alfred R. Newlin devoted his life to general farming and stock raising. In 1896 he moved to Newport from Vermillion township, where he



had long maintained his home. He is spending the last years of his life in retirement. Politically, he is a Democrat, but never aspired to office.

Dr. Sherrill is a member of the Knights of Pythias, Lodge No. 242, at Newport. He belongs to the Indiana Veterinary Medical Association.

---

### J. F. SKIDMORE.

The Skidmore family is too well known in Vermillion county to need any formal introduction to the readers of this history, for they have been active in the affairs of this locality for a period of ninety-three years, having been among the very earliest settlers of this section of the Wabash valley, and here they did their full share in the work of transforming the wilderness into one of the choice agricultural regions of the Hoosier state, and they also laid the foundation for civic and moral progress, being people of high ideals and honorable character.

One of the best known members of this sterling old family is J. F. Skidmore, an enterprising farmer near Newport, who was born in Helt township, Vermillion county, Indiana, January 29, 1857, the son of William M. and Amelia W. (Anderson) Skidmore, the father having been the first male white child born in Vermillion county, his birth occurring in 1819. He grew up amid early pioneer conditions and much hard work fell to him, in the way of clearing and developing the wild land. The family endured many privations and hardships, for there were no improvements, no roads, bridges, nearby trading posts or even neighbors, but they were hardy sons of the soil and could not be daunted by hardships. Here the father of the subject spent his life engaged in general farming and stock raising and school teaching, becoming one of the leading citizens of Helt township. He was joint representative of Vigo and Vermillion counties in 1868 to 1872. His death occurred here on May 27, 1881. The mother of the subject was born in Posey county, Indiana, and her death occurred in 1890 in Helt township. To these parents six children were born, all still living but one, who died in infancy. The father was a Republican.

J. F. Skidmore grew up on the home farm and there assisted with the general work. He received his education in the public schools, and he has made farming his life work, with the exception of a year and a half, when he operated a butcher shop at Dana. In 1900 he moved to his fine farm of two hundred and eighty acres, two hundred of which is under cultivation and

well improved, and here he is still carrying on general farming and stock raising in a manner that brings him a comfortable competency. He makes a specialty of raising black Angus cattle, which, owing to their superior quality, find a very ready market; also makes a specialty of Ohio Improved Chester hogs, which are greatly admired by all who see them. He has made many extensive improvements on his farm of late years and has a commodious and pleasant home three and one-half miles from Newport. He has made all by hard work and good management, with no outside aid.

Mr. Skidmore was married in 1888 to Susan E. Reed, daughter of Franklin E. and Elisa A. (Ingall) Reed. The father was born in North Carolina, from which state he came north with his father when young and followed farming in Illinois, just west of St. Bernice. Three children have been born to the subject and wife, namely: Amelia A., who married Henry Starr, is living on the home place of William Skidmore; Dorothy M. is at home; and Archie is deceased.

Politically, Mr. Skidmore is a Republican, and he was on the advisory board one term. Fraternally, he belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and is a member of the Horsethief Detective Association. He belongs to the Friends church.

---

### MELVIN L. HALL, M. D.

The name of Dr. Melvin L. Hall, of Newport, Vermillion county, has been a household word in the locality of which this volume deals for more than a quarter of a century, for while yet a young man he won a wide reputation in the medical profession and showed what a man of careful mental training, honesty of purpose and an abundance of zeal and persistence can accomplish, although his early advantages were none too flattering. He was naturally endowed with the capacities of the **successful practitioner of medicine**, at least this would be inferred judging from the eminent success he has attained.

Dr. Hall was born in Vermillion county, Indiana, on May 10, 1846, the scion of a sterling pioneer family, the son of W. B. and Nancy (Jordan) Hall, the father having been born in Virginia in 1798 and the mother in Kentucky, each representing excellent old Southern families. They came to Vermillion county, this state, in the early days of its settlement and here established the permanent home of the family, devoting the rest of their lives

to general farming. Thirteen children were born to them, four of whom are still living, namely: Samuel J., who resides in Vermillion township, this county; Emanda was next in order; J. W. is a traveling salesman and makes his home in Kansas; and Dr. Melvin L. of this sketch.

Dr. Hall grew to manhood on the home farm and there assisted with the general work when a boy. After passing through the public schools in his home community he entered Wabash College, Crawfordsville, Indiana, where he remained one year, then began the study of medicine at home, which he continued a year, then entered the Kentucky School of Medicine at Louisville, where he remained six months. He then began practicing, which he continued five years, following which he went to New York City and entered Bellevue Hospital, the noted medical college of that place, where he remained until his graduation in March, 1876. He soon afterward returned to Newport, Indiana, and has since been successfully engaged in general practice here, having enjoyed a large and lucrative patronage, and taking a position in the first rank of medical men in this section of the state; however, now that old age has begun to advance on him he has curtailed his practice to a few old families that have always engaged his services, having begun to gradually retire from the active duties of life.

Dr. Hall was married in 1895 to Ella P. Parrett, daughter of John W. and Lydia (Zenor) Parrett, old settlers in Vermillion county. Mr. Parrett is of English descent. He has spent his life in the ministry of the Methodist Episcopal church and in farming. The union of the subject and wife has been without issue.

Politically, the Doctor is a Republican. He belongs to the State Medical Society and the American Medical Association, and was formerly a member of the National Medical Association, and for fifteen years he served very ably and acceptably as city health officer of Newport. Fraternally, he belongs to the Masonic order and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Mrs. Dr. Hall is the owner of two hundred and forty acres of finely improved and valuable land in Vermillion township, this county, which is kept rented. The Doctor owns his attractive dwelling at the corner of George and Market streets, Newport, also several valuable pieces of property here.

In 1872 a society was organized, known as the Western Indiana Historical and Scientific Association, and the subject was made the recording secretary. Many important subjects, historical and geological and in other lines, were investigated during the ten years that the organization held to-

gether. Dr. Hall is a stockholder in the Citizens Bank at Newport, also a stockholder in the First National Bank at Dana, Indiana. He has been very successful in a business way and has laid by an ample competency for his declining years.

---

### C. A. WINTER.

One of the worthy native sons of Vermillion county, Indiana, who has made a success in life and has at the same time upheld the dignity of an honored family name and proved himself to be a citizen of proper public spirit is C. A. Winter, the present popular postmaster at the town of Eugene.

Mr. Winter was born in Highland township, Vermillion county, on September 18, 1876, and he is a son of William N. and Alice M. (Hain) Winter. The father was born in this county, to which his father removed from Virginia in an early day, settling at the town of Perrysville, and from that time to this the Winters have been prominent in this locality, which they have helped develop from a wilderness to its present high state of civilization. The father of the subject grew to manhood here and assisted his father in developing the homestead, and he spent the rest of his life successfully engaged in general farming, carpentering, truck and fruit raising. His death occurred when his son, C. A., was seven years of age, in February, 1883. His family consisted of four children, namely: Katie, who married John Pottmeyer, of Logansport, Indiana, where he is engaged in the cabinet-making business; the second child died in infancy; C. A., of this review; Fred J. moved to Houston, Texas, in 1909, and is engaged in the real estate business there. The father of these children was a Republican and was very stanch in his support of the party. The Winter family are Presbyterians.

C. A. Winter received a common school education, passing through the high school at Perrysville. He began life for himself on the farm, continuing in that line of endeavor until he removed to the town of Eugene in 1906, where he engaged in the general mercantile business. In November, 1907, he was appointed postmaster there, and he held that office continuously to the present time in a manner that has reflected much credit upon his ability and integrity and to the eminent satisfaction of the people and the department. He is the owner of forty acres of well improved and productive land, part of the old farm of his wife's people, and about a year ago he purchased his present commodious and attractive home, remodeling it exten-



sively, and built a new cement porch, and he has a substantial brick dwelling, which is neatly furnished.

In 1901 Mr. Winter was united in marriage to Lizzie Hughes, daughter of Hiram and Mary R. (Hudsonpiller) Hughes, her father having been one of the old settlers of Vermillion county, in which Mrs. Winter was born, reared and educated, and here she taught school successfully for a period of eight years. One child has been born to our subject and wife, Ruth Winter.

Politically, Mr. Winter is a Republican and has been active in the ranks, though he votes independently in township and county affairs. He belongs to the Masonic order at Perrysville.

---

### J. T. SIMPSON.

Since coming to Vermillion county J. T. Simpson, well known merchant of Newport, has enjoyed in the fullest measure the public confidence because of the honorable methods he has ever followed, and, being the possessor of the pleasing manners and obliging nature of the typical Kentuckian, he has won and retained a wide circle of friends in this section of Indiana.

Mr. Simpson was born in Monroe county, Kentucky, November 2, 1872, and he is a son of J. C. and Melissa (Bushong) Simpson, both parents natives of the same county and state in which the subject was born. There they grew to maturity, were educated and married, spending their early lives there, and in 1886, when their son J. T. was fourteen years old, they left the Blue Grass state and moved to Montgomery county, Indiana, and engaged in farming. They are now living in the town of Rockville, Parke county. A fuller sketch of them appears on another page of this volume.

J. T. Simpson was reared on the home farm and helped with the work about the place when a boy, and he received his education in the public schools, principally in Montgomery county. He began life for himself by farming, which he followed for a period of ten years, then came to Newport, in 1901, and entered the bakery business, in which he met with much success from the start. This he continued until 1905, when he established the store which he has since continued, his store being one of the busiest and best known in this part of the county. He carries at all seasons a large, carefully selected and up-to-date stock of general merchandise and does an extensive business with the town and surrounding country, many of his regular customers coming from remote distances, for here they know they will

be accorded uniform courtesy and honest treatment. He carries a six-thousand-dollar stock and is well located in the southwest corner of the public square.

Mr. Simpson was married on November 27, 1901, to Rachael Brown, daughter of E. B. and Susan (Brindley) Brown. Mr. Brown was born and reared in Vermillion county and in his earlier life was a farmer, later ran a hotel awhile, then was elected treasurer and he served two terms. During the Civil war he served in the Union army. He is now living retired in Newport. Four children have been born to the subject and wife, namely: Mary died when two years old; Garrett B. died in infancy; Mariam A., who was born May 23, 1906, and Thomas C., whose birth occurred on January 27, 1907.

Politically, Mr. Simpson is a Republican and has been active in the party. He was at one time candidate for sheriff of Vermillion county and was defeated by **only two votes**.

Fraternally, Mr. Simpson is a member of the Knights of Pythias, Lodge No. 242, at Newport, and he is past chancellor in the same. He is deserving of a great deal of credit for what he has accomplished in a business way, having started in life with little aid from any one, and he has made honestly and by his own hard work every dollar which is today his. Personally, he is a man of splendid physique, six feet six inches tall, well proportioned, weighing two hundred and twenty pounds.

---

#### MATTHEW M. SCOTT.

One of the most prominent and influential citizens of Clinton, Indiana, is Matthew M. Scott, whose place in the business life of that community is unquestioned, as he is interested in almost every phase of business and has made a marked success. He is also a prominent figure in the social and political life of Vermillion county, and has gained a reputation for honesty, integrity and sober judgment in financial matters that has made him a financial adviser for his many friends over that part of the state.

Mr. Scott is a grandson of Joseph and Rebecca (Crusen) Scott, who were well known in southern Indiana. His father, Matthew W. Scott, was born in that part of our state on February 17, 1823, and died July 23, 1908. His mother is Mary (Mann) Scott, who was born on July 9, 1829. She was also a native of Indiana, and still lives here, making her home with her

daughter, Mrs. John A. Wittermood. Mr. Scott's parents received common school educations. His father was a farmer until the last few years of his life, when he retired. He had eleven children, seven of whom are still living.

Matthew M. Scott was born August 12, 1864, in Vermillion county, Indiana, and spent his early life in this county, receiving a common school education. He was married October 19, 1898, to Daisy E. Robison, who was a lady of good intellectual attainments and a fine education. She was born October 10, 1869, and received a common school education, and graduated with the first class from the Clinton high school. She was a teacher in Clinton for thirteen years, her special work being in the primary grades, where she was very successful, and she was missed very much when she gave up her work.

Mr. Scott entered into the clothing and gents' furnishing business after finishing school, with George W. Edwards, who at that time was postmaster at Clinton and Mr. Scott was assistant. They managed their store, which was located in the postoffice building in connection with the postoffice, and did very well there. In 1889 Matthew M. Scott moved from the postoffice building, with the business in which he was a half owner, and later dissolved partnership with Mr. Edwards and took his brother in with him. Upon the death of his brother, Mr. Scott took Ruben C. Martin into the business with him under the name of Scott & Martin, and they were very successful up until January, 1911, when they sold their business to Ivan W. Scott, who now conducts the business. Mr. Scott owns a number of valuable business properties in Clinton, among which is the Scott & Martin block, which he built in 1907. He also owns his home and a number of houses in Clinton, which he holds as rental investments. Besides this property, Mr. Scott owns a farm seven miles west of Clinton, Indiana. There are about four hundred and eighty acres in this farm and most of it is fine tillable soil. He has about fifteen hundred rods of tiling and expects to put in more. It is called the "Woodland Stock Farm," and is one of the best natural stock farms in the western part of Indiana. He has been raising some short horn cattle, but is usually interested in general stock raising, at which he has been very successful.

Mr. Scott has no children and has been able to give a great deal of time to the general public, taking an active interest in every movement for improvement in his home city. He is trustee and treasurer of the Presbyterian church. He is also a political leader and the Democratic party has made him mayor and councilman. Mr. Scott is also actively interested in the large financial institutions in his city, being one of the directors of the Home Loan

and Savings Association and a director of the Citizens Bank, which latter position he has held for three years. He has held a responsible place on the finance committee of the Home Loan and Savings Association for the last fifteen years and up to the present date has not had a single foreclosure. His sagacity and foresight in all business deals not only makes him a valuable man to all the institutions with which he is connected, but has made him one of the most popular and highly respected citizens of his county, to which he has given the benefits of his high attainments during all these years. It means a great deal to a community to boast of such a financier, citizen and friend as Mr. Scott, and it is to such men that the country must look for continued prosperity.

---

#### CHARLES R. COOPER.

When we look at the successful men of today, it is found that the majority of them started in business in a modest way and have gradually built up their holdings until they have reached large proportions. Success comes more often by hard work and consistent, careful attention than by great strokes or lucky fortune. It is men who have succeeded in their own line, and have reaped abundant reward for their labor, who have done the most to forward the general welfare in their community. Among those most prominent men in Clinton, Vermillion county, Indiana, who have been successful, is Charles R. Cooper, who is interested in the only large saw-mill in his county.

Mr. Cooper is the son of David and Ellen (Butcher) Cooper, both natives of the state of Indiana. His father was born near the center of the state March 4, 1845, and died in March, 1875. His mother was born July 27, 1847, and died in 1878. David Cooper had a common school education and followed the carpenter's trade through his life. He and his wife had only the one son, Charles R. Cooper, who was born in Montgomery county, Indiana, June 3, 1867, where he received a common school education.

On March 20, 1888, he married Emma Seward, who was born in November, 1867. Mr. Cooper early became interested in the saw mill business, and in 1894 he went into partnership with A. C. Butcher. Their mill was small and they started with a very small trade, but they have gradually increased in capacity, as their business grew, until now they can turn out daily about seven thousand feet of lumber, and they operate the only saw-mill in Vermillion county.



Mr. Cooper and his wife are the parents of six children, all of whom are at home. There are Maggy, Mary, Maude, Clarence, Charles, Jr., and William. The children were all born and educated in Clinton, and it is a very happy family that lives in the home that Mr. Cooper owns. He also owns a number of lots in Clinton, and with his partner, A. C. Butcher, owns the mill and two lots.

Charles R. Cooper has not only given his careful and consistent attention to his own business, but has found time to take an active interest in the social and civic life of the community. He held the office of councilman for four years in Clinton and during that time gave his efforts to every progressive movement which came up. He is still an ardent progressive, and his influence is felt and his judgment respected by his friends and neighbors, as he has always proved himself an honest and just man in his dealings with his fellow citizens.

---

#### M. B. CARTER.

The backbone of this country is made up of the families which have made their homes through their own honest and persistent work; who are alive to the best interests of the community in which they reside; who are so honest that it is no trouble for their neighbors to know it; who attend to their own business and are too busy to attend to that of others; who work on steadily from day to day, taking the sunshine with the storm and who rear a family to a comfortable home and an honest life. Such people are always welcome in any community. They are wealth producers, and Vermillion county is blessed with many such, among whom is the subject of this sketch, son of a pioneer, veteran of the great Civil war, and at present the popular postmaster at Newport.

M. B. Carter was born in Highland township, Vermillion county, Indiana, December 27, 1843, and he is a son of Absalom C. and Sidney (Chenoweth) Carter. The subject was reared to manhood in his native locality and educated in the common schools there; however, his schooling was limited, for when but a boy he began working on the farm, and when the Civil war came on, although he was but a lad of nineteen years, he enlisted in Company B, Indiana Veteran Volunteer Infantry, in May, 1861, about a month after the first call for troops, and he was at once sent with the army to the South and took part in the battles of Fort Donelson, Shiloh, Champion's Hill and the siege of Vicksburg, and many skirmishes, later

came north and fought at the battle of Cedar Creek in Virginia, also Winchester, that state. He proved to be, despite his youth, a faithful and gallant defender of the Stars and Stripes. He was discharged at Baltimore, Maryland, in 1865, after his two terms of enlistment had expired, he having re-enlisted in 1864, in the same company and regiment. After the war he returned home and took up farming, which he followed with much success until 1886, when he moved to his pleasant home in Newport, where he has since resided. He was appointed postmaster at this place in 1912, and is at this writing very ably discharging the duties of the office in a manner that is highly acceptable to the people and the department. Politically, he is a Republican. For four years he was county recorder, and he was county assessor for six years, filling these offices in a highly creditable manner. Fraternally, he is a Mason, and he belongs to the Grand Army of the Republic, Shiloh Post No. 249.

Mr. Carter was married in 1868 to Fannie Moffet, and this union resulted in the birth of one child, Grace, who married Bird Davis. In 1882 Mr. Carter married Miss Sallie Elbertson, from whom there was no issue. In 1888 he married Miss Amanda Kerdolli, by whom he has one child, Fannie, who is assisting her father in the postoffice. Mr. Carter has always been regarded as one of our most public spirited citizens, lending his hearty support to all measures looking to the general good of his county.

---

### VALZAH REEDER.

The name of Reeder is one which has been long known in the neighborhood of Clinton, for the first to bear it in that vicinity was among the early settlers. And from the time when the first of the name came here to the present, those who have borne the name have been men of honor and integrity, women of virtue and goodness, always doing their part to help in the community, and their lives have been examples of the substantial worth among citizens whose positions in life have not been such as to make them very widely known, or to gain them high applause, but who form the solid foundation upon which all the superstructure of our civilization is built and without whom our present greatness could not exist.

Valzah Reeder was born on September 9, 1870, the son of J. Wesley and Elizabeth Ann (Smith) Reeder. His grandfather, Nelson Reeder, was a native of Ohio, who came to this county when a small lad, with his parents,

and here spent the remainder of his life. His father, J. Wesley Reeder, was born on August 26, 1845, and has spent all his life in Clinton township, and now resides in Clinton. His mother was born in Virginia on July 4, 1848. Both his parents received no more than a common school education. Their family consisted of five children. The subject was born in Clinton township and there spent his early life on a farm. He attended grammar school and spent one and a half years in high school.

Valzah Reeder was married on October 20, 1892, to Minnie Kerr. She bore to him two children, John W., now nineteen years old, and Amelia, who died at the age of nine months. Minnie Reeder passed from this life on October 6, 1896, after a little less than four years of wedded life. On January 6, 1898, Mr. Reeder was married to Olive I. Gosnell, a native of Clinton township. She is the mother of three children, Fred Nelson, Van and Ruth.

Mr. Reeder owns forty-six acres of land and, with his brother, owns one hundred and ninety-one acres, all in Clinton township. They carry on general stock farming, which they find profitable. In politics Mr. Reeder is a Republican, and he is now township trustee, having satisfactorily filled the office for three years. Before that time he was deputy assessor under W. William Pugh, the present assessor, and in all his official relations he has uniformly made friends of the people of the township by his methods of dealing with them. Mr. Reeder is a Mason, a member of the commandery, and is also an Odd Fellow and a Knight of Pythias. He is a young man who has made good, and whose future, judging from his past, will be that of a man of the highest usefulness to his community.

---

#### REV. ALBERT C. BUTCHER.

The life of Albert C. Butcher, well known resident of Clinton, Indiana, has resulted in much good to his fellow men, for while laboring for his own advancement he has never neglected his duties to others. He believes the duty of everyone while passing through this world is to do all the good he can, help his neighbors who are in need of succor of any kind, and thereby one will be strengthened for his own battle.

Mr. Butcher was born on September 17, 1858, in Putnam county, Indiana, and there he grew to manhood and received a good common school education. He is a son of Joe and Lina (Sailor) Butcher, the father a native of Kentucky, from which state he removed to Indiana when about twelve years

of age and he spent the rest of his life in this state. After his death his wife removed to Missouri, where she died. They were the parents of fourteen children, eight of whom are still living. The father was a millwright by trade. Politically, he was a Republican. Clark Butcher, the subject's paternal grandfather, lived in Kentucky. Grandfather Sailor was a native of Germany, from which country he came to the United States when young in years.

Albert C. Butcher was married on March 8, 1876, to Ellen Henkel, who was born on March 29, 1859, in Putnam county, Indiana, where she grew to womanhood and received a **common school education**. She was a daughter of Joe and Elizabeth (Sullivan) Henkel. She died on March 4, 1891, and on February 24, 1893, Mr. Butcher was united in marriage to Ida Parmer, who was born in Montgomery county, Indiana, and her death occurred on August 14, 1906. Mr. Butcher's third marriage occurred on April 7, 1907, to Ella Norton, who was born in Tennessee on January 12, 1891, the daughter of James and Sarah (Day) Norton. She received a common school education. Mr. Butcher is the father of twelve children, eleven of whom are still living, namely: Mattie, Elma, Della, Aaron, Lena, Nora, Minnie, Homer, William, Ruth, Godfrey and Ora, and an adopted son, James Long Butcher.

Starting in life as a farmer, by hard toil Mr. Butcher soon forged ahead financially. In 1901 he came to Clinton and purchased a half interest in the saw-mill owned by his brother James, the remaining interest being later bought by C. R. Cooper and himself, who still run the business under the firm name of Butcher & Cooper. When he came to Clinton Mr. Butcher purchased property and erected a residence on the banks of the Wabash river. A few years later he erected a large and commodious residence in Fairview Park, which was soon afterwards destroyed by fire. He is now the owner of a store at Fairview Park, and the saw-mill and other property, all of which he has won by persevering efforts and sound business methods, so that now he is **enjoying a substantial income**.

Upon locating in Clinton, Mr. Butcher began to preach in the church of the United Brethren in Christ, in which denomination he had been ordained a minister three years previously. The congregations to which he preached in Clinton were composed mostly of those not familiar with church walls, and among them he worked with definite results. As his congregation increased, he conceived the idea of forming a new sect, where fashion and style should not be the standard of a **member's worth**. So the new church was **launched**, officers elected and a discipline promulgated for the government of the church. The subject is now bishop of this denomination and his work



has been blessed with splendid results. The church continues to grow and now possesses many thousands of dollars in property. He is a preacher of more than ordinary ability and has been popular with all congregations where he has labored.

Mr. Butcher is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Clinton. Politically, he is a Progressive, as might be expected, for he believes in the world moving forward, laying aside the old and unsound and assuming the new and sound.

---

#### WILLIAM COX, SR.

One of the leading farmers and citizens of Parke county is William Cox, Sr., a man whom the entire community trusts and respects, for his long life of honor and usefulness speaks for itself.

Mr. Cox is the owner of a finely improved and productive farm of three hundred and thirty acres, which he keeps well tilled and on which he carries on general farming and stock raising on an extensive scale. He has a pleasant home and attractive surroundings. Mr. Cox was born on April 24, 1844, near Owensburg, Greene county, Indiana, and he is a son of John B. and Mary (Mayfield) Cox. The father was born in North Carolina, and, in 1826, when seven years old, his parents brought him to Lawrence county, Indiana, and there he grew to manhood and received his education in the common schools, and early in life took up farming. In 1856 he came to Parke county, locating near Rockville, and there reared his family, which consisted of the following children: William, of this review; Sarah J. and Mary E. are deceased: John T.; Clara, deceased; Oscar; Caroline, deceased; Anna, Cora and Homer.

William Cox, Sr., came to Parke county with his father and the rest of the family in 1856 and here he grew to manhood on the home farm, where he assisted with the general work, and he received his education in the common schools. Early in life he turned his attention to general farming and this he has always carried on with ever-increasing success. He proved his patriotism and courage when only eighteen years old by enlisting in Company G, Seventy-first Regiment, Sixth Cavalry, and he served with much faithfulness and credit in defense of the Union in its titanic struggle with the hosts of rebellion. He participated in the battle at Richmond, Kentucky, in which his regiment lost all of its field officers. Then Jones Biddle was appointed colonel.



WILLIAM COX, SR.



Mr. Cox was promoted to second lieutenant before the close of the war. After serving three years in a most creditable manner Mr. Cox was honorably discharged, and mustered out at Pulaski, Tennessee, June 17, 1865. He had seen much hard service and suffered the horrors of prison life, having been captured in Georgia by the Confederates and confined for some time in Andersonville Prison at Florence, South Carolina.

After the war Mr. Cox returned home and resumed farming, and in 1868 he was united in marriage to Phoebe Lewis, and to them three children have been born, namely: Amberzilla, who married J. W. Crouch, and they have six children, Irene, Irma, Paul, Lewis, Marie and Harold. Winnie Cox married Henry Gilfoy, and they have five children, Lucile, Raymond, Lena, William Philip and Lewis Wayne. Sylvia Cox married O. B. Phillips, and these children have been born to them, Mary, John, Robert, William, Martha and Margaret.

Mr. Cox is an interested member of the Grand Army of the Republic and is active in the affairs of the local post. Religiously, he is a member of the Christian church, which he liberally supports. The Cox family has stood high in this locality ever since they located here over a half century ago and during that period they have done much toward the general development of the vicinity.

---

#### ROBERT E. GUINN.

It has truly been said that in America no one need lack for education who really desires it, and this is proved by the example of Mr. Guinn. Having received somewhat limited advantages in his youth, after farming for several years, he took up the study of law by correspondence and, persevering in his self-set task, in a comparatively short time he fitted himself for the practice of this profession, in which he has met with a reasonable and well-deserved success and has established himself as a man of honor and integrity.

Robert E. Guinn is the son of Matthew and Eliza (Cook) Guinn. His grandfather, William Guinn, was an early settler of Kentucky, where he passed the remainder of his life. His father was born in Kentucky, on September 16, 1821, and died on September 15, 1898, having lived within one day of seventy-seven years. His mother was born in Kentucky and died in September, 1880. Both father and mother were so situated in youth that they had limited advantages in schooling. They spent their lives in farm



ing, and were well respected in whatever community they lived. Of their fourteen children, six are now living.

Robert E. Guinn was born in Putnam county, Indiana, on December 21, 1871. He attended the common schools, then, at his maturity, went to Illinois and took up farming. In 1899 he came to Clinton and began the study of law by correspondence. In 1908 he actively took up the practice of law, devoting to it his whole time. For four years before taking up the practice of law he had served as justice of the peace and was afterwards appointed deputy prosecuting attorney for his county. He is now again serving as justice of the peace and his decisions and methods of trying cases are commended by the bar of Clinton.

In November, 1892, Mr. Guinn was married to Mary E. Delaney, who was born in Illinois in July, 1876, and received a common school education there. To this marriage were born seven children, Floyd, the oldest of whom, was eighteen in March, 1912. The remaining children are Lloyd E., Goldie Edith, Robert Pearl, Kenneth, Charles Harrison and Harold Franklin, and they form an interesting and attractive family. Mr. Guinn owns a handsome and conveniently appointed home in Clinton. In politics he is a Progressive, his religious affiliations are with the Methodist church, and fraternally he is a member of the Modern Woodmen, the Owls, and the Junior Order of United American Mechanics. He is well known in Clinton and Vermillion county, and is looked upon as one of the rising and promising citizens of that community.

---

#### GUY H. BRIGGS.

There are few men in Vermillion county whose years number no more than those of the subject of this sketch, who can point to as many achievements as his record discloses. He began as a farmer on a small scale on a rented farm, saved his earnings, bought land and prospered, entered the contracting business, in which his high executive ability enabled him to carry out successfully and profitably all his undertakings, and now he ranks among the foremost citizens of Vermillion county, than whom no one is better known. He is yet but a young man, scarcely in the prime of life, and the promise of his earlier life is that his future years will continue to be years of usefulness to his community.

Guy H. Briggs was born on October 9, 1874, in Vigo county, Indiana. His education was received in the common schools and his boyhood was spent

on the farm, where his observant nature led him to learn many lessons which were lost on many of his fellows less acute of perception. He farmed until his marriage, on December 15, 1895, to Theresa A. Reeder, the daughter of J. W. Reeder. She was born on October 7, 1872, and received an education similar to that of Mr. Briggs. The young couple went to housekeeping in a two-room cottage on a rented farm south of Clinton, on which they lived as renters for six years, at the end of which time they purchased the farm. Now Mr. Briggs owns three hundred acres of land in Vigo county, two hundred of which are tillable, one hundred and seventy acres in Clinton township, Vermillion county, and one hundred and thirty-five acres in Eugene township, Vermillion county, besides several smaller tracts, making his total holdings aggregate more than six hundred acres. For several years Mr. Briggs has been engaged as a railroad and gravel road contractor in Park and Vermillion counties and had a contract for goods for the Tuberculosis Hospital. The last two years he has devoted his time largely to the real estate business, and has shown himself as well adapted to this as to the other businesses with which he has been connected.

Mr. and Mrs. Briggs are the parents of two children, Herbert Ray, born in June, 1897, who is now in the third year of high school at the age of fifteen, and Ruth Marie, born in February, 1906.

Mr. Briggs now lives in Clinton, in one of the most attractive homes in the county, and he also owns a beautiful country home designed in the colonial style. His fraternal affiliations are many, for he is a member of the Masons, the Mystic Shriners, the Elks, Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias, Redmen, Modern Woodmen and Lions, takes an active part in all, and is well known fraternally in his own and neighboring counties. In politics he is a Republican, and has served four years as trustee of his township, giving general satisfaction. Mr. Briggs is a jovial and entertaining companion socially, and these qualities have added to his popularity among those who know him.

---

#### ALLEN FRAZER.

It is signally consonant that in this work be incorporated at least a brief resume of the life and labors of Allen Frazer, who has long been one of the influential citizens of Vermillion township— in fact, was born here and has spent his life in this community, being a connecting link between the present and the pioneer period in which he spent his childhood and of which he has

many interesting reminiscences. Through his efforts his community has reaped lasting benefits, for his public spirit and exceptional business capacity have been directed along lines calculated to be for the general good. A man of forceful individuality and marked initiative power, he has been well equipped for leadership in his community, while his probity of character and his genial personality, obliging nature and common charitableness have won the good will and esteem of all who know him.

Mr. Frazer was born in the township and county where he is still living on June 11, 1847, and he is a son of William and Elizabeth (Norris) Frazer. The father was born in North Carolina in 1815, and the mother was born in Whitewater, Indiana. William Frazer came to Indiana when he reached his majority, and located in Vermillion county, among the early settlers, establishing the permanent home of the family in Vermillion township. He was a carpenter by trade, which he followed in connection with farming, having entered some prairie land here. He built many of the first homes in this section of the state.

Ten children were born to William Frazer and wife, namely: Felix is deceased; Alex is living in Dana, this county; Allen, of this sketch; Melvin, now living on the home place; Caroline is still living; Emeline, Albert, Johnnie are all deceased; Ann was next in order; Olive is living at Mortonville, and Indiana was the youngest. William Frazer was a Republican. His death occurred in 1872, and his wife died in 1901.

Allen Frazer grew to manhood on the home farm and received a common school education. He began life as a farmer and, with the exception of four years when he worked in a saw-mill, has always followed general farming and stock raising. He has also done some carpenter work. He is the owner of one hundred sixty-nine and one-half acres in Vermillion township, which he has brought up to a high state of improvement and cultivation, having made all the improvements himself. He has made a specialty of raising Poland China and Berkshire hogs and short horn cattle, and owing to the superior quality of his live stock they have ever found a very ready market. He has a good residence and substantial outbuildings.

Mr. Frazer was married in December, 1872, to Mandy Merriman, daughter of Manson and Julia Ann (Sears) Merriman. Her father was an old settler of Tennessee, coming to Vermillion township, this county, in an early day and here followed farming. He and his wife are both now deceased. Three children have been born to the subject and wife, namely: The first died in infancy; Ura married J. Agra, and they live in Newport; James mar-

ried Carrie Nichols, and he is farming in Vermillion township. Mrs. Frazer died on November 15, 1892.

Mr. Frazer is an ardent Republican and he was commissioner of his county in 1903, giving entire satisfaction to all concerned.

---

### R. A. ALLEN.

Among the successful business men in Clinton, Vermillion county, Indiana, R. A. Allen, the foremost lumberman in that part of the county, ranks high as a man of ability, keen business judgment and unquestioned honesty and integrity. He started in business modestly and by his industry and determination has helped to build up a large business, and, as his education has been obtained through practical experience, he knows each department of the company's affairs and is able to understand the point of view of those whom he employs.

Mr. Allen was born August 20, 1851, in Vermillion county, Indiana. His parents were Alanson H. and Margaret (Fleming) Allen. His father was born in Indiana in 1827, and died here June 28, 1854. His mother was a native of Ohio, born January 5, 1834, and died February 2, 1902. Both of his parents received common school educations. His father was a saw-miller, and was highly respected in his community. Alanson H. and Margaret Allen had two children, but R. A. Allen is the only one surviving. After R. A. Allen finished his education in the common schools he wanted to go out into the business world and learn its ways from the very beginning. He started to work as a clerk, but only remained in this position for a few years. On December 18, 1889, Mr. Allen married Lu Martin, who was born in Putnam county, Indiana, on September 28, 1856. They have no children.

Soon after he was married R. A. Allen entered the lumber business and ran the yard for Whitcomb & Company. In 1904 he bought them out, with T. C. Martin as his partner, and they have been very successful. When they started Mr. Allen and Mr. Martin carried on their business in a couple of small open sheds. As they became better known and their business grew they had need of greater facilities, and in 1911 they built their present business plant, a brick structure one hundred and thirty-two feet by one hundred and fifty-nine feet, with an office building besides. They can now carry in stock about two hundred thousand feet of lumber. Aside from lumber, they handle all kinds of building material, including plaster, lime and everything



that is needed in their community along that line. There are only two other lumber yards besides their own and they furnish lumber and building materials for that part of the county. The business is now on a solid paying basis and both Mr. Martin and Mr. Allen feel rewarded for their work.

R. A. Allen has also taken an active part in the social and political life of Clinton. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Clinton and of the Christian church. Mr. Allen is an ardent Democrat, and though he has always been deeply absorbed in his business and has held no office, he has always afforded his party great aid in using his influence to support it. Mr. Allen owns his home in Clinton, Indiana, as well as three rental properties and several lots. He also owns one hundred and sixty acres of land in Greeley county, Kansas. He has earned every step of his way to success and richly deserves it, and all along his way he has done his best for the good of those around him. Clinton may well be proud of his achievements.

---

#### ROBERT HARRISON.

Among the wealthy, retired farmers now making their homes in Clinton, Vermillion county, Indiana, is Robert Harrison, a native of Virginia and heir to the blue blood, loyalty to opinions, and courage in standing for the right with which the oldest state in the Union seems to endow her children. Though born in Virginia, Mr. Harrison has long been a loyal Hoosier, and is now one of the most highly respected citizens and prominent men in Clinton.

His father was Benjamin Harrison, who was born in Virginia on February 8, 1805, and died in Indiana on February 8, 1897, on his ninety-second birthday. His mother was also a native of Virginia, being born in that state on January 19, 1806. She died in Indiana in 1882. His parents came to Indiana shortly after they were married, believing that a broader field of work and richer rewards lay in what was then considered the West. His father settled on a farm in Vermillion county and was a very successful farmer. His friends and neighbors recognized the honesty and justice of Mr. Harrison and he was soon a leader in his community. He was made justice of peace and held that position for forty years, never being out of office. The justice of his decisions may be appreciated by the fact that no case that he decided was reversed when taken to a higher court.

Robert Harrison's mother was Jane Anne Bright, and she and her hus-

band had thirteen children, six of whom are still living. Robert was born in Virginia, October 11, 1831, and was one year old when his parents moved to Indiana. He was educated in the best common schools then offered by the state, which were very meagre, and spent his early boyhood on the farm.

On February 6, 1855, Robert Harrison married Elizabeth Fisher. She was born in Shelby county, Kentucky, June 23, 1833, but was early brought to this state and spent her youth in Vermillion county. She is the daughter of James and Elizabeth (Briscoe) Fisher.

After his marriage, Mr. Harrison became interested in farming on his own account and lived on his farm in Vermillion county for about sixteen years. He is now retired, having sold his sixty-six acres of land to his grandson, and is now living on his income, though still managing all of his own affairs. He and his wife are the parents of five children: Benjamin married Clara Ockerman, and they live five miles north of Clinton, in Helt township, Vermillion county; James married Josephine Chun, and he is a mail carrier in Denver, Colorado; Annabelle is the wife of G. R. Hopkins and lives on a farm two miles west of Clinton; Jane Ann married Sherman Bullock, who is in the hardware business in Terre Haute, Indiana; Briscoe married Cora Sparks, and lives in Clinton.

Mr. Harrison is very comfortably fixed in Clinton, owning his own home and a couple of rentals. He is a leader, both socially and politically. He is a Republican and has always been a credit to his party.

---

#### WALTER G. PHINNEY.

This age might properly be called the electrical age, and the man who is an accomplished electrician holds a prominent place wherever he may go. Because of this fact Walter G. Phinney has quickly established himself in Clinton and Universal, Indiana. As he is eager for improvement along all lines, and is willing to work for any movement which means progress for his community, he has taken his place among the leading men in that part of Indiana, and holds an important place in the great Bunsen system which is giving the country the benefit of the coal fields in Vermillion county.

Walter G. Phinney is the son of Frank E. and Rosa A. (Simons) Phinney. His father was born March 31, 1862, in Massachusetts. At the age of fifteen he moved to Terre Haute, Indiana, where he is still living. He is now the head bolt maker for the Vandalia Railroad Company in that city.

Rosa A. Phinney was born December 12, 1863, in Illinois, and is still living. Both of his parents enjoyed the benefit of a common school education. They had two children, but Walter G. is the only one living. He was born August 18, 1882, at Centralia, Illinois, and had a common school education. At the age of thirteen years, seventeen years ago, he started on his electrical career, beginning sweeping at the Kester Electric Company, Terre Haute, Indiana. He worked there for three years, and then left because the personnel of the company was not harmonious.

August 18, 1906, Mr. Phinney married Eva Park, who was a native of Illinois, being born in that state November 15, 1881. They have had no children, and Mr. Phinney has applied himself primarily to his profession, and has become an expert in his line. When he went to Terre Haute, Indiana, he took a position with the Vandalia Railroad Company as an electrician in the shops at that place, and was promoted gradually through his industry and natural adaption until he held a very high position with that company. He was chief electrician of the St. Louis terminal for the Vandalia Railroad Company, where he remained three years, going there the year before the World's Fair and staying there a year after the exhibition was over. Mr. Phinney wired the postal car on the exhibition in the government building. During this time he was also running a private business of his own in Terre Haute, Indiana. Soon after this he came to Universal, Indiana, and hung the first piece of wire with the Bunsen Coal Company. Mr. Phinney is now in charge of all the electric wires at the two mines. He has two machine bosses, two wiremen on the bottom, and one wire man on the top working for him, and his work has been very efficient.

Mr. Phinney has not allowed himself to become narrow and entirely absorbed in his work, however, and is interested in all the political and social questions which come before the country. He is identified with the Knights of Pythias, of which he is a past chancellor. He is a Mason, and member of the Modern Woodmen of America and the Knights and Ladies of Honor, besides the Brotherhood of Electric Workers and the Miners Union. Mr. Phinney was the manager of the Boys Brigade in Terre Haute in 1896. He is a member of the Baptist church. Having a keen interest in the questions which the country is facing at this time, Mr. Phinney carefully studied the Progressive platform, and is now identified with that party. He is the type of man whose service to the community in which he lives is practical and effective, and he is highly respected in his community. He lives in a modern six-room house at the company's plant at Universal.

## ISAAC D. WHITE, M. D.

Good intellectual training, thorough professional knowledge and the possession and utilization of the qualities and attributes essential to success, have made Dr. Isaac D. White, of Clinton, Vermillion county, eminent in his chosen calling, and he stands today among the enterprising and successful physicians in a community noted for its high order of medical talent, while at the same time he has won the confidence and esteem of the people of this locality for his upright life and genial disposition.

Isaac D. White was born in Jackson township, Parke county, Indiana, August 25, 1872. He is the son of Joseph E. and Eliza (Huckins) White, the father a native of Pennsylvania and the mother of England, from which country she came to the United States when young, and married Mr. White upon reaching maturity. They spent the latter part of their lives in Parke county, Indiana, both being now deceased. They were hard working, highly respected people and well liked in their neighborhood. They became the parents of ten children, only three of whom are now living.

Dr. White was reared at Lena, near Greencastle, Indiana, where he received his primary education in the common schools. This was supplemented by a course in the Indiana State Normal School at Terre Haute, from which institution he was graduated with the class of 1899. He then entered the Indiana Medical College at Indianapolis, from which he was graduated in 1904, having made an excellent record. He subsequently took a post-graduate course at the Presbyterian Hospital of New York City, and also had some hospital work in Boston. Thus exceptionally well qualified for his chosen life work, he returned to his native state and opened an office at Clinton, where he has since been engaged in the general practice, having been **successful from the first** and he now has a large and lucrative practice extending over a wide territory.

Dr. White was married on September 7, 1907, to Bessie Louise Daller, daughter of Albert Daller, a highly respected family of Indianapolis. To this union three children have been born, namely: Robert D., born June 22, 1908; Laura Virginia, born November 12, 1909; Joseph Raymond, born **December 25, 1911.**

Dr. White is a member of the Vigo County Medical Society, the Clinton Medical Society, the State Medical Society, and the American Medical Association. Fraternally, he belongs to the Fraternal Order of Eagles, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Woodmen at Clinton and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks at Terre Haute. Politically, he is a



Democrat and has been loyal in his support of party principles. He is at this writing incumbent of the office of county coroner and is discharging the duties of the same in a manner that reflects much credit upon his ability and to the eminent satisfaction of all concerned.

---

#### REN M. WHITE.

The life of this venerable and highly respected citizen and soldier has been led along lines of honorable and useful endeavor and has resulted in the accomplishment of much good, not only to himself, but to those with whom he has been associated. He has seen the development of Vermillion, his native county, and has taken an active part in it, consequently in his old age he can look back over a life well spent and for which he should have no regrets.

Ren M. White was born in Helt township, Vermillion county, Indiana, January 31, 1841, and is a son of James A. and Martha (Elder) White, the father a native of Tennessee, where he lived until nine years of age when he came to Indiana with his parents and they located in Sullivan county in a very early day, and later moved to Fountain county and from there to Helt township, Vermillion county. The elder White followed farming all his life. His family consisted of ten children, namely: Orville J. and Louisa are deceased; Florence lives in Clinton; Eliza Ann and Serena are deceased; Ren M., of this sketch; James A., Jr., of Clinton; Frank, who was a soldier during the Civil war in Company D, Eighty-fifth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, is deceased; Warren, deceased, and C. M., the latter of Clinton.

Ren M. White was educated in the common schools of Helt township, where he grew to manhood, working on the home farm during the vacation periods. He then took up farming, and was thus engaged when the war of the Rebellion broke out, and on September 2, 1862, he enlisted in Company D, Eighty-fifth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, in which he became orderly sergeant and which was assigned to the Army of the Cumberland. The subject saw much hard service, including that on Sherman's march to the sea, then on up through the Carolinas, fighting almost every day, and on to Washington, D. C. On June 12, 1865, he was honorably discharged and paid for his services at Indianapolis. He at once returned home and resumed farming, and on May 19, 1867, he was married to Mary J. Davis, daughter of Robert and Melvina (Taylor) Davis, who came from Virginia to Parke county, in an early day, settling at the town of Annapolis.

To the subject and wife one child was born, Carrie, who died when nine years of age.

Politically, Mr. White is a Republican, but while he has always been a staunch supporter of the same, he has never been a public man nor held office, preferring to devote his attention to his farming and stock raising, at which he has been very successful, now owning one of the choicest and best improved farms in Helt township, on which is a good home and convenient outbuildings, everything roundabout denoting good management.

---

### THEODORE C. MARTIN.

The Allen and Martin Lumber Company, which has been referred to elsewhere in this history, in connection with the life of R. A. Allen, is one of the foremost business institutions in Clinton, Indiana, and it owes its success and remarkable progress in a very large degree to the business ability, untiring energy and careful attention of Theodore C. Martin, who started, with Mr. Allen, in the most modest circumstances, and now is regarded as one of the most reliable and financially responsible men in Clinton. He is a man of broad experience and splendid business attainments, and has made his way to his present prominent position by unceasing labor and well-deserving industry.

Mr. Martin is the son of Samuel and Margaret E. (McGinnis) Martin. Samuel Martin was born in 1829 and died in 1884, and his wife was born in 1833, and died in 1897. Both parents received common school educations. They had eight children, all of whom are living. His father was a farmer all his life and was a man of prominence in Putnam county, Indiana. Theodore C. Martin was born December 29, 1869, in Putnam county, Indiana. He spent his early life on the farm and attended the common schools. Later he spent a couple of years in Eureka College, in Illinois, where he specialized in Bible study and the literary course. After leaving school he went into business, becoming interested at first in the grocery business.

Mr. Martin was married in 1911 to Laura Wolfe, who was born in 1872. She received a common school education. They have two children, Theodore Wayne and Helen Louise Martin, both of whom are at home. Soon afterwards Theodore C. Martin left the grocery business and became a contractor and builder. This work was much more to his liking and he displayed a natural talent, which made him very successful in this work. From this he

naturally drifted into the real estate business and finally bought a share in the lumber yard together with Mr. Allen, retaining his interest in the contracting business. It was in 1909 that he and Mr. Allen purchased the lumber yard, and since that time they have been very prosperous and are now running an enormous business.

Mr. Martin has not only been interested in his business, but has given his attention to a number of other activities both in his town and the state. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Clinton, Indiana, and also a member and elder in the Christian church. He owns his home in Clinton and also a number of rentals there. He has also a half interest in a business room on Main street, and is an active partner in the firm of Allen & Martin. Mr. Martin has a great deal of influence in Clinton and he has always used it in endorsing and promoting every action for the public good which presents itself. He has succeeded in the business world by his sterling integrity and unquestioned honesty and is universally regarded as an earnest church worker, a careful and just business man and a citizen of whom Clinton may be proud.

---

#### ELMER M. McCUTCHAN.

Having decided early in life that his native hills were good enough for him, Elmer M. McCutchan, of Greene township, Parke county, has remained here and has become well established through his industry and close application, and, having dealt honorably with his fellow men, he has always enjoyed their confidence and good will.

Mr. McCutchan was born on March 10, 1867, in Greene township, Parke county, Indiana, and is a son of James A. and Minerva E. (Porter) McCutchan. The father was born on December 18, 1831, in Parke county, and the mother's birth occurred on July 27, 1837, in Putnam county, Indiana, and she is still living on the old home place in Greene township, but the father was called to his eternal rest in 1903. He was a carpenter in his earlier life, later turning his attention to farming and stock raising in this community and here became the owner of a valuable farm. His family consisted of seven children, named as follows: Elmer M., of this review; William P., Margaret A., John H., James F., S. Florence and M. Nellie.

Elmer M. McCutchan received the usual advantages of the common schools in his native community, and later attended Bloomingdale Academy, then took a course in a commercial college at Terre Haute. Thus well

equipped for his chosen life work, he returned to Parke county and began teaching school, which he followed with most gratifying success for a period of fourteen years. Finally tiring of the school room, he turned his attention to the mercantile business, which he followed at Russellville and Milligan, Parke county, for a period of about seven years, enjoying a liberal trade with the surrounding country. After that he took up farming and is still actively engaged, owning eighty acres of highly productive and well improved land, all well tilled and tillable, in Greene township. He has a pleasant home, and he keeps a good grade of live stock.

On November 28, 1900, Mr. McCutchan was united in marriage to Elsie E. Spencer, who was born on April 9, 1875, in Parke county, Indiana, and here she grew to womanhood and received her education in the public schools and Bloomingdale Academy. She is a daughter of George W. and Mary (Clark) Spencer. To this union four children have been born, namely: Winfred, born on September 22, 1901; Wendell S., born on February 17, 1905; Mary M., who was born on February 11, 1907; and Marjorie A., whose birth occurred on June 1, 1911.

---

### JAMES SMITH REED.

It is a rare, and ought to be a highly appreciated, privilege to be able to spend our lives on the old home place. This has been the good fortune of James Smith Reed, one of the best known farmers of Helt township, Vermillion county, having lived nearly three score years here, during which time he has been active in the great development of this community, for when he was a boy it was very little improved to what it is today, his parents having come here when settlers were few and little of the virgin land had been reclaimed from the wilderness.

Mr. Reed was born in Helt township, Vermillion county, Indiana, September 11, 1854, and is a son of John W. and Sarah B. (Ralston) Reed, the father born in 1822 in Stokes county, North Carolina, where he spent his earlier years, coming from there to Vermillion county, Indiana, in 1833, settling near where the town of New St. Bernice is now located, and there he spent the rest of his life, following farming for about forty years, owning the farm where the subject now lives. He lived retired in Dana for six years, dying there in 1885 at the age of sixty-two years. The mother of the subject also died in Dana in 1892, at the age of sixty-seven years, her birth hav-



ing occurred in 1825. They were the parents of eight children, namely: Louis Henry, of Centralia, Illinois; Alfred Maranda, who lives at St. Bernice, Indiana; James Smith, of this sketch; George Washington lives in Salina, Kansas; the next three children died in infancy; Jemima Jane, who married Ralph Hafley, of St. Bernice, Indiana, was the youngest child.

James S. Reed grew to manhood on the home farm, where he worked when a boy, and he received his education in the common schools. In 1880 he married Rebecca A. York, daughter of Andrew and Eva Jane (Rains) York, the father a native of Stokes county, North Carolina, and the mother of Mercer county, Kentucky. From North Carolina they moved to Edgar county, Illinois, where Mrs. Reed was born. Five children have been born to Mr. Reed and wife, namely: Claud L., born May 10, 1881, died in infancy; Grace Ethel, born June 20, 1882, died when twelve years old; Ernest E., born November 3, 1885; Otto O., born April 19, 1889; and Wreatha M., born May 10, 1893.

Mr. Reed began farming early in life and has continued the same to the present time with a marked degree of success, having spent his entire life, fifty-eight years, on the old homestead, which he has kept well tilled and well improved, so that it has yielded abundant crops and has at the same time retained its original strength of soil. He has always kept a good grade of live stock and has kept the buildings in good repair.

Politically, Mr. Reed is a Prohibitionist. He has been councilman one term, also school director several terms, and is known as a very faithful public servant. In religious affairs he is a Methodist Protestant. His father was a Republican, and his maternal grandfather was surveyor for one term in Edgar county, Illinois.

---

#### R. J. FINNEY.

The career of R. J. Finney, deceased, the late able and popular sheriff of Parke county, Indiana, was varied and interesting, and the history of this locality will be more interesting if a record of his activities and achievements are given prominence and a tribute offered to his worth and high character as a man of affairs, an enterprising and public-spirited citizen. He was a worthy scion of two of the sterling pioneer families of this country who did so much toward paving the way for the present-day civilization. For many years he ranked among our leading agriculturists and he was one of the hon-

ored veterans of the world's greatest civil strife, having fought gallantly for his country's flag during the great Southern rebellion of the early sixties.

R. J. Finney was born on December 10, 1844, in Parke county, Indiana, and was the son of Robert and Malinda (Hunt) Finney. The father came from North Carolina, when about twenty years of age, to Vincennes, Indiana, accompanied by his father, Joseph Finney, who was a veteran of the war of 1812, having served under General Andrew Jackson. He was a native of Virginia, where his father, the subject's great-grandfather, Joseph Finney, Sr., was also born, and from there the elder Finney took his family into Tennessee in a very early day.

R. J. Finney was reared on his father's farm and received his education in the common schools. At the commencement of the Civil war he was anxious to go to the front, but, being at that time but a youth, he was compelled to wait some time, and made repeated efforts before being permitted to enlist. Eventually he enlisted at Rockville, Indiana, but again on account of his youth he was not permitted to go to his regiment. Later he enlisted in the Eleventh Indiana Cavalry, but the commanding officers refused to muster him, still being too young. Finally, he went to Terre Haute and joined the One Hundred and Forty-ninth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, in which he served about a year faithfully, the command being assigned to the Army of the Cumberland. At the conclusion of hostilities, and after receiving an honorable discharge, Mr. Finney returned home and took up farming in Parke county with his brothers, which he made his principal life work, having been very successful as a farmer and stock raiser, owning a finely improved and valuable farm. He was a good business man, a practical agriculturist and an upright citizen, so that he stood unquestionably among the representative citizens of his county. He was employed as railway mail clerk for twenty-seven consecutive years and resigned shortly before he was nominated for sheriff in 1908. He was elected sheriff of Parke county, the duties of which office he discharged to the entire satisfaction of the citizens of the county, being the incumbent of the office at the time of his death, which occurred on December 11, 1912. He carried into the office of sheriff the same fidelity to duty, sound judgment and common sense methods which he had exercised in his own private affairs and his career as a public official commanded the admiration of all who knew him.

On July 8, 1867, Mr. Finney was united in marriage with Melissa Thompson, who has been deceased for some years. To this union four children have been born, all of whom died in infancy except Charles E., who married Jessie Gross, and they have one child living, Charles Wesley.

On December 1, 1910, Mr. Finney married Gertrude May Atkinson, to which union was born one child, Robert J. Mr. Finney kept alive his old army associations through his membership in the Grand Army of the Republic, being held in high regard by his old comrades. In every avenue of life's activities in which he engaged he was always true to his trust and because of his manly worth and estimable qualities he commanded public confidence to a notable degree.

---

### JESSE W. PIERCE.

Perhaps no one agency in all the world has done so much for public progress as the press, and an enterprising, well-edited journal is a most important factor in promoting the welfare and prosperity of any community. It adds to the intelligence of the people through its transmission of foreign and domestic news and through its discussion of the leading questions and issues of the day, and, more than that, it makes the town or city which it represents known outside of the immediate locality, as it is sent each day or week into other cities or districts, carrying with it an account of the events transpiring in its home locality, the advancement and progress there being made, and the advantages which it offers its residents along moral, educational, social and commercial lines. Vermillion county is certainly indebted to its wide-awake journals in no small degree, and one of the men who are doing commendable work in the local newspaper field is Jesse W. Pierce, editor and publisher of the daily and weekly *Clintonian*, at Clinton. He has long been connected with journalistic work, and his power as a writer and editor, as well as a business man, is widely acknowledged among contemporary newspaper men and the public in general.

Jesse W. Pierce was born at Shelburn, Sullivan county, Indiana, on December 21, 1878, and is the son of James H. and Flora E. (Patton) Pierce, both also natives of Sullivan county. The father is a prominent and successful lumberman and farmer and a man of good parts. He and his wife became the parents of two children besides the immediate subject of this sketch, namely: Claude and Mrs. Hazel Acklemire, both residents of Shelburn.

Jesse W. Pierce received his elementary education in the public schools at Shelburn, and then took a normal course at the State Normal School at Terre Haute, graduating in 1902. He then entered Wabash College, at



JESSE W. PIERCE.





Crawfordsville, where he graduated in 1905. During this period of his studies he was engaged in teaching school and while in Wabash College did newspaper work for the *Crawfordsville Journal*. After completing his education, Mr. Pierce became a reporter, and later city editor, on the *Sullivan Daily Times*. He then worked as a reporter on the *Terre Haute Star* and in the same capacity on the *Worcester* (Massachusetts) *Telegram*. In 1907 he bought the *Pierceton* (Indiana) *Record*, which he published until 1908, when he came to Clinton and purchased the *Clintonian* and the *Plaindealer*, consolidating the two papers under the name of the *Clintonian*. The paper was published as a weekly until 1910, when it was changed to semi-weekly, and in 1912 its issues were changed to daily and weekly. Mechanically, the *Clintonian* is all that could be desired, while editorially the paper will compare favorably with any other newspaper in this section of the state. Mr. Pierce is a "live wire" and has the genuine newspaper man's instinct for news, while he is discriminating in his selection of the daily news, so that the paper has no relation to the "yellow" journalism which has to some extent been a blight on the profession. Mr. Pierce has at all times stood stanchly and fearlessly for the best interests of the entire community and personally and by editorial utterance advocates advanced ground on all moral, social and educational questions. Personally, he is an independent Republican and takes an intelligent interest in public affairs. He is genial and courteous in his dealings with others, possessing an engaging personality that makes for him friends of all who associate with him, and in the community at large he is held in high repute.

On April 27, 1907, Mr. Pierce was united in marriage with Harriet H. Ristine, of Crawfordsville, the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. W. H. Ristine. Their union has been blessed with two children, Warren Harvey and Martha Ristine.

---

### JOHN D. BROWN.

Among the sterling and highly respected citizens of Vermillion township, Vermillion county, Indiana, stands John D. Brown, a man who has, in every sphere of activity in which he has engaged, performed his duty to the best of his ability, thereby earning a well merited reputation for integrity, industry and thoroughness. As a soldier for the Union during the dark days of the Southern rebellion he was a faithful and courageous defender of the national honor; as a shoemaker he has during a long course of years been

considered one of the best in the state, and as a citizen he has always stood for a high standard of living, so that his community is the richer for his having lived in it.

John D. Brown was born in the township in which he now lives, on October 16, 1838, his family having been a well-known one here from the days of the early settlers. His father, Thomas Brown, came from the East to Vermillion county in a very early day and here established the permanent home of the family. He was a shoemaker by trade and followed that occupation with considerable success. To him and his wife were born the following children: Jeff, Henry, and John D., the subject of this sketch, all of whom live in Newport; David, Sarah and Susan are deceased, and Armina, of Burton, Kansas, who is living.

John D. Brown learned the trade of shoemaker under the directions of his father and, as stated above, he has for many years been considered one of the best shoemakers in the state, having enjoyed a large patronage among the representative people of the community. On the 28th of August, 1862, Mr. Brown enlisted for service as a member of the Fourteenth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and gave to his country his best service until discharged because of physical disability, incurred in the line of duty. He was a loyal defender of the Stars and Stripes and, to the full extent of his ability, contributed to the success of the national arms. Since his return to private life he has devoted himself to the vocation of shoemaker, making his home at Newport.

On March 24, 1864, Mr. Brown was united in marriage to Eliza Smith, and to them have been born the following children: Richard, deceased; Minnie, the wife of Joseph Donovan, of Terre Haute, and William Sherman. The mother of these children was called to her rest on February 7, 1911, at the age of sixty-six years.

Politically, John D. Brown gives his support to the Democratic party, while, fraternally, he is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. His excellent personal qualities of character have commended him to the good will of the people with whom he has mingled for so many years, and he is generally considered one of the sterling citizens of Newport.

William S. Brown, oldest child of John D. and Eliza Brown, was born in Vermillion township on March 8, 1866. He grew to manhood in his native community and attended school here. Early in life he took up farming as a renter, following the same for some time. In 1908 Mr. Brown was elected trustee of Vermillion township and has performed the duties of this office in such a manner as to win the commendation of his fellow citizens.

He is a man of good habits and upright character and stands high in the esteem of those who know him.

On March 14, 1889, William S. Brown married Etta Wise, daughter of Daniel Wise, of Newport, and to this union five children have been born, namely: Aden, at home; Hazel, deceased; Arden, Gladys and Martha, all at home.

Politically, Mr. Brown is a Democrat, while his fraternal affiliations are with the Court of Honor and the Knights of Pythias.

---

### SYLVESTER MANION.

Many of the characteristic traits of the sterling Celtic race are to be noted in the character of Sylvester Manion, successful farmer and honored citizen of Vermillion county, for he is thrifty, progressive and honorable in all the relations of life and has never permitted hardships to appall him or obstacles to divert him from his coveted goal, and, having lived honestly during his residence here, he has ever had the esteem of his neighbors and friends.

Mr. Manion was born on February 25, 1856, in Parke county, Indiana, and he is a son of Patrick and Rose Manion, who were born in Ireland. There the father spent the first half of his life, coming to Parke county, Indiana, when a middle aged man and here he began to work on one of the street railways, later worked on the canal. His death occurred when his son, Sylvester, was eighteen months old, having lived but three years after he came here. His family consisted of three children, namely: Mary is deceased; Bridget married J. N. Davis, he being now deceased, but she lives in Newport, Indiana; and Sylvester, of this sketch.

Sylvester Manion received his education in the public schools, and early in life turned his attention to farming, which he has always followed with success, and he is now the owner of a finely improved and productive farm of one hundred and eighty acres in Vermillion township, where he is carrying on general farming and stock raising. He is making a specialty of raising Red and Duroc Jersey hogs, which, owing to their superior quality, he always finds a very ready market for. He also raised graded Jersey cattle, and, while he does not carry on a dairy business, sells considerable butter. Everything about his place denotes thrift, good management and excellent taste in farming and stock raising according to twentieth-century methods.

Mr. Manion was married in 1886 to Icie L. Johnston, daughter of John



R. and Elizabeth (Southerd) Johnston, her father having been one of the old settlers of Helt township, this county. He worked in the timber for some time, and when the Civil war came on he was a soldier in the Union army. Five children have been born to the subject and wife, namely: Elsie, Hosie, Iva and Harry, all at home; Thomas, the third in order of birth, was born August 10, 1891, and died September 20, 1895.

Mr. Manion has made all the improvements on his place and he has a nice home, three and three-fourths miles from Newport. Politically, he is a Republican, but is inclined to be progressive in his views and he votes independently locally. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and the Court of Honor, both at Newport. He takes an interest in whatever tends to the betterment of his locality in any way.

---

#### H. B. LEAVITT, M. D.

The dread scourge of tuberculosis has gained such headway in the United States, over one-half the deaths throughout the Union annually being due to it, that a large number of the best general practitioners in the land have specialized on this disease, many learned medical treatises have been prepared from time to time, dealing with this subject, and numerous hospitals for the exclusive treatment of the same have been established in every state. The nation-wide war goes on, making progress, slowly but surely, and from present indications great strides are about to be made in this specific branch of materia medica. One of the eminent physicians of Indiana who gave the subject his careful attention and was regarded as one of our most reliable experts on tuberculosis was Dr. H. B. Leavitt, the late efficient and popular superintendent of the Indiana State Tuberculosis Hospital. He was born in Elmira, New York, July 5, 1865, and was a son of A. H. and Sarah (Baldwin) Leavitt, both of whom are now deceased.

Dr. Leavitt grew to manhood in his native state and was educated in the schools of Elmira, taking an academic course. Having decided on a medical career early in life, he went to St. Louis and entered the College of Physicians and Surgeons, where he made a splendid record and from which institution he was graduated with the class of 1896. He furthered his knowledge of medicine at the National Hospital in St. Louis, where he was an interne for some time. He began the practice of his profession in the city of St. Louis, where he remained one year, then came to Worthington, Indiana, in 1897, where he soon had a large practice. About 1900 he took a

post-graduate course in New York. While at Worthington, Indiana, he received an appointment as a member of the board of trustees of the Indiana State Tuberculosis Hospital, in February, 1900, and he remained connected with this institution as superintendent, giving eminent satisfaction to all concerned, to the time of his death, which occurred in 1912.

Dr. Leavitt was married on August 9, 1896, to Mary Straight, a lady of culture and the representative of an excellent family. This union has been blessed by the birth of the following children: Marion, Louise and Eugenie.

---

### GEORGE WASHINGTON HATFIELD.

The man who can meet every crisis in his own affairs, or those of his home or country, with clear judgment and prompt action, is the man whose efforts are crowned with success. George W. Hatfield, of Adams township, Parke county, Indiana, is a man of this type. When the call for volunteers came he was ready to go and fight for his country, and when the war was over he met the conditions which faced him in his native state and set to work to conquer them by industry.

The subject's father was George Hatfield and his mother Nancy (Glass) Hatfield. His grandfather Glass was a native of Ohio, who came to this state when there were very few people here, and cleared his farm. He engaged in agriculture all of his life. He had ten children, eight of whom are still living. George Washington Hatfield, Jr., was born on May 20, 1845, in Parke county, Indiana. He spent his youth as did most of the farmer lads of the state, attending the common schools when he could be spared from manual labor at home, and indulging in all those hardy out-of-door games which built a physique that stood even the strain of the Civil war.

Mr. Hatfield was married on February 5, 1908, to Nellie White, the daughter of William White, who also was a native of Indiana. They have no children. Mr. Hatfield has been very successful. He now owns two hundred and twenty-three acres of land in Adams township, all of which, with the exception of about forty acres, is tillable. This land belonged first to his grandfather and then to his father. He has brought his land to a high state of cultivation, by constant and intelligent care, and now produces some of the largest and finest crops that are to be found in that part of the county. He also has one of the best equipped places in Parke county, having built most of the improvements himself, including a beautiful home.

In 1864 Mr. Hatfield enlisted for service in the Civil war, and during

his army life was in the One Hundred and Fifteenth Regiment of Indiana troops, under Captain Hawn. He served his country in war, and then returned home to serve just as faithfully in peace, and, with all the care he has bestowed on his farm, he has taken an active interest in all of the larger questions that have come to the citizens of his county and state to be answered. His sound judgment and foresight are much respected by his friends and neighbors, and as he has become, through his own efforts, one of the richest men in his county, his opinion in matters of business carries great weight with all with whom he is identified. He has always been a Democrat in politics. The men who have put their energies into the soil are in reality the men upon whom this country depends for its food, and though our factories and our mercantile businesses are indispensable, it is the man on the farm who really holds the key to our prosperity.

---

E. H. CALVIN ROHM.

To attain a worthy citizenship by a life that is always honored and respected, even from childhood, deserves more than mere mention. It is no easy task to resist the many temptations of youth and early manhood and form a character that will remain an unstained figure for all time. One may take his place in public life through some vigorous stroke of public policy, and even remain in the hearts of friends and neighbors, but to take the same position by dint of the practice of an upright life and without a craving for exaltation and popularity is worthy the highest praise and commendation. One of the most representative business men and public-spirited citizens of Parke county is E. H. Calvin Rohm, widely known mill man of Rockville. Strong and forceful in his relations with his fellow men, he has not only made his influence felt, but has also gained the good will and commendation of both his associates in the practical affairs of life and the general public, ever retaining his reputation among men for integrity and high character, no matter how trying the circumstances, and never losing that dignity which is the birthright of a gentleman. Consequently his influence for good in the general upbuilding of the city of Rockville and Parke county has been most potent and still continues. He is a plain, straightforward and unassuming gentleman, friendly, genial and obliging in his nature and he is popular with a wide acquaintance.

Mr. Rohm, of the firm of Rohm Brothers, well known dealers in flour, feed, hay and grain at Rockville, and one of the best known representatives

of an old family of millers, was born at Gapsville, Bedford county, Pennsylvania, in 1860. He is a son of Jacob and Mary (Hixson) Rohm, both of whom were also natives of Pennsylvania and there they grew to maturity, were educated and married, later moving to the middle West, locating at Mansfield in 1875. The Rohm family originally came from Germany, emigrating to the United States in the eighteenth century, in the colonial days, and from that period to the present time the various members of the family have been leaders in the affairs of the localities where they have lived, and since the latter part of the eighteenth century they have been prominent in the milling business in various states, the subject of this sketch being the fourth successive generation of this name to engage in this line of endeavor in America, and he seems to have inherited much of the enterprise and technical knowledge of his forebears.

E. H. Calvin Rohm received a common school education in the schools of Illinois, Iowa and Indiana, having removed from the old Keystone state with his family when he was a boy. He literally grew up in the milling business, learning the same in his father's mill, beginning at the age of fifteen years, since which time he has been continuously identified with the business with ever-increasing success, having mastered the various phases of the same when young-in years. In the early eighties he received several years' experience as journeyman millwright, assisting in or superintending the construction of mills in various parts of the United States, from Virginia to California, giving eminent satisfaction and becoming known as a very skilled workman. In 1885 he formed a partnership with his father at Mansfield, Indiana, and installed the first roller process flour mill in Parke county. By the admission into the firm of his brother, George W. Rohm, whose personal history appears elsewhere, the firm of Jacob Rohm & Sons was formed. With the retirement of the father in 1893 the firm of Rohm Brothers was formed, and the mill at Rockville was built the same year. In addition to this large mill, the firm of Rohm Brothers control and operate the Mansfield Roller Mills, the Mecca Elevator, the West Union Elevator, the Montezuma Mills and Elevator, and Walton's Warehouse. In 1895 the firm of Rohm Brothers & Company was formed, by the admission of H. H. Heller and C. O. Seybold, this firm taking over the Mansfield mill property. The firm does a large and varied business, the principal lines being flour milling and grain business and the manufacture of hard wood lumber. The Mansfield mill is the only mill in the county occupying the site of a pioneer mill, there having been a mill at this point since the year 1820. Its water-power site is unexcelled and equaled by few in the state. The firms manufacture the famous



brands of "Big Domino Flour" and "Victory Flour," which are very popular throughout the middle West, and they are extensive and successful dealers in flour, feed, hay and grain. These brothers are among the financially strong men of Parke county and are known as progressive in all that the term implies.

The subject of this sketch was married in 1902 to Alice A. Hunt, a lady of many commendable characteristics and a daughter of John F. D. and Mary (Kemper) Hunt, a highly esteemed family of Rockville, where Mrs. Rohm grew to womanhood and was educated.

Fraternally, Mr. Rohm belongs to Parke Lodge No. 8, Free and Accepted Masons, and kindred Masonic societies at Rockville; also the Clinton Commandery, Knights Templar; the Indiana Consistory, Scottish Rite, and Murat Temple, Ancient Arabic Order of Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, at Indianapolis; he also belongs to Rockville Camp No. 3245, Modern Woodmen of America.

---

#### WILLIAM J. WHITE.

Under a popular form of government, like that of the United States, where the democratic idea of equality is as fully developed as the present imperfect condition of mankind will permit, we expect as its legitimate result the triumph of individual worth and energy over all the competition that wealth and class may array against them. Here the avenues of wealth and distinction are fully opened to all, which fact enhances rather than detracts from the merits of those whose energy and integrity have triumphed over all obstacles intervening between an humble position and the attainment of those laudable ends. Obscurity and labor, at no time dishonorable, never assume more attractive features than when the former appears as the nurse of those virtues which the latter, by years of honest and persevering effort, transplants to a higher and richer soil; hence, the biography of those men of sterling worth whose active enterprise has won for them the distinction, pre-eminence and commanding influence in the society in which they move must be replete with facts which should encourage and instruct the young. Such is William J. White, vice-president of the Parke State Bank, of Rockville, who for many years has held marked prestige in business and civic circles of the locality of which this volume treats, and who by the exercise of those talents and qualities which were cultivated from his youth, has reached an honorable position in the public mind and earned the respect and high esteem of his

fellow citizens. He is a man of tireless energy and indomitable courage, and takes an optimistic view of things.

Mr. White was born in Rockville, Indiana, July 29, 1850, and is a scion of an excellent old family, the Whites having been prominent in the affairs of this locality since the pioneer epoch. His parents were Johnson S. and Hannah (Jones) White.

The subject grew to manhood in his native county and here received a good education in the common schools, and at an early age he was initiated into the mysteries and miseries of saw-mill life at White's saw-mill, three miles from Rockville. Before he was of age he was appointed deputy recorder of Parke county, on February 13, 1871, and he served with satisfaction to all concerned in that capacity until November 20, 1874. In 1874 he was elected to the office of county recorder, serving in that connection for two terms, or until 1882, in a manner that reflected much credit upon himself and to the praise of his constituents. He was singularly well fitted for the discharge of the duties of this office, being by nature careful, accurate, a fine penman, and possessing a remarkable memory, so excellent, in fact, that in most instances he was enabled to inform the inquirer as to the volume and page of his deed or mortgage without making an examination.

Mr. White became associated with the Parke State Bank at Rockville, as vice-president, in May, 1901, and this responsible position he has continued to fill to the present time to the eminent satisfaction of the stockholders and patrons.

Prominent in fraternal affairs, Mr. White takes an active interest in the Masonic order, Knights of Pythias and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He is justly regarded as one of the most reliable, intelligent and capable of local business men and personally he is a man of unfailing courtesy. Religiously, he belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church, being a trustee in the local congregation, and for many years has had charge of the choir; in fact, he is regarded as one of the most important pillars in this church and is a liberal supporter of the same.

Mr. White was married on November 12, 1874, to Martha J. Miller, a lady of refinement and education the daughter of James N. Miller and wife, an excellent family of Parke county. Three children graced this union, all of whom are living, namely: Mabel, who is the wife of W. B. Thomson, of Rockville; Herbert Snow, of Coffeyville, Kansas, and Robert J., of Rockville. Mr. White is noted for his charitable impulses, his sunny disposition and optimistic view of life in general, so that he is a pleasant man to meet.

## GEORGE W. ROHM.

The financial and commercial history of Rockville, Indiana, would be incomplete and unsatisfactory without a personal mention of those whose lives are interwoven so closely with the industrial and financial development of this portion of the state. When a man, or a number of men, set in motion the machinery of business and thus contribute to the commercial prosperity of the community with which they are allied, they place themselves among the leaders of that community, and deserve specific mention among those who have contributed to the progress and prosperity of their locality. Among the representative citizens of Parke county is the gentleman whose name appears at the head of this sketch and who has for many years been closely identified with one of the leading industries of Rockville.

George W. Rohm was born in Fulton county, Pennsylvania, in 1864, and is the son of Jacob and Mary (Hixson) Rohm, both of whom also were natives of the Keystone state. The subject received a good education, having attended the common school at the various places of the family residence in Illinois, Iowa and Indiana. He was also a student for a short time in the State Normal School at Terre Haute, the Central Normal School at Danville, Indiana, and the Terre Haute Business College, graduating from the last-named institution. He then took up the vocation of teaching, being thus engaged in the common schools of Parke county for three years, and meeting with splendid success. In 1886 he left the school room to engage in business in partnership with his father and brother at Mansfield, Indiana, having learned the miller's trade in his boyhood under the direction of his father. The name of Rohm has been continuously connected with the milling and grain business of Parke county since 1875, when Jacob Rohm, father of the subject, bought the mill at Mansfield. The firm of Jacob Rohm & Son was formed in 1885, the name being changed with the admission of the subject into the firm, to Jacob Rohm & Sons. The father retired from the firm in 1893 and the firm of Rohm Brothers was formed, the subject and his brother, E. H. Calvin Rohm, continuing the business at Mansfield. At that time they began the erection of the Rockville Roller Mills. Their business has constantly grown and extended, so that they now own and operate the Rockville Roller Mills, the Mecca Elevator, and also have a controlling interest in the Mansfield Roller Mills, the West Union Elevator, the Montezuma Mill and Elevator Company and Walton's Warehouse. They are shrewd and sagacious business men, conducting their affairs along right methods.

and are numbered among the leading business men and citizens of their community.

In 1887 George W. Rohm was married to Alice J. Vinzant, the daughter of Henry W. and Mary (Hamilton) Vinzant, of Parke county, and they have become the parents of five sons, Guy, Arthur, Lawrence, Homer and Harold, and three daughters, Cora, Clara and Mary, all of whom are living, except Lawrence, who died in early childhood.

Religiously, Mr. Rohm united with the Methodist Episcopal church in early manhood and has been actively connected with the society ever since. For twenty-three years he has served as Sunday school superintendent and is now serving his sixteenth consecutive year as superintendent of the Sunday school of the Rockville Methodist Episcopal church. Fraternally, Mr. Rohm is a member of the Free and Accepted Masons, belonging to Parke Lodge No. 8; Parke Chapter No. 37, Royal Arch Masons; Parke Chapter No. 177, Order of the Eastern Star, and Rockville Camp No. 3245, Modern Woodmen of America.

#### PHILLIP A. ROBERTS.

The majority of the foremost people in Clinton, Vermillion county, Indiana, are connected with the coal mines in that part of the state. These coal fields are very productive, and it is only within the past ten years that the work there has become so organized as to give the public the benefit of the mines. Phillip A. Roberts is in Clinton because of the mines, as he is a successful and experienced miner.

Mr. Roberts is the son of William F. and Eliza (Darr) Roberts. His father was born in Ohio October 3, 1837, and is still living. His mother, who was born in 1843 in Ohio, died in 1880. Both parents had a common school education. They had three children, all of whom are living. William F. Roberts was a farmer for a while, and then turned his attention to general merchandise, and is well known and highly respected in the community in which he lives.

Phillip A. Roberts was born August 13, 1871, in Iowa, and received a common school education. On the 8th of May, 1895, he married Mary Grace Hunter, who was born July 14, 1876, in Vermillion county, Indiana, and was educated in the common schools of this state. They have six children, all of whom are at home. Their first child was Don, and then come Doyne, Lloyd, Howard, Nellie and Elva.

Mr. Roberts has always been interested in coal mining and has had a



broad experience in his work. He was first employed in the mines in Kansas. From there he went to Illinois, and then to Missouri. He came to Indiana in 1894, and went to work in this field, and he was with the Dering Company when they took the mine here, three years ago. He has been very thorough in his study of this work and understands the work through practical experience. He now is superintendent for J. K. Dering Coal Company of the shafts in mines Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 8.

Besides his work in the mines, Mr. Roberts has been very much interested in all the affairs of the community and is proving himself an active and reliable citizen in Clinton. He is a Republican, and is a member of the Knights of Pythias at Clinton. He has been very thrifty and owns his own home. Such men, working out their own fortune, further commerce and add to the wealth of the district in which they live.

---

#### LEE ROY STEWART.

Among the successful teachers of Vermillion county, Indiana, stands the subject of this sketch, who has not only gained a high standing among his fellow educators, but has also attained a prominence in other lines of effort unusual in one of his years. Of a studious and investigating nature, he has not been satisfied with the simple routine of his professional life, but has delved into the past and by his researches into fields that to many offer little attraction, he has earned for himself high honor and distinction.

Lee Roy Stewart is the oldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Dora Stewart and was born at the family home on the banks of the Wabash, near Newport, Indiana, on September 10, 1889. He attended the public schools, graduating from the Newport high school in 1909, after which he took special training in the Indiana State Normal School. For the past four years he has been successfully engaged in teaching in the common schools near Newport. "Skimmie," as he is familiarly called by his associates, has for some time been making a special study of aboriginal life in Parke and Vermillion counties, and is already held to be an authority on Indian life in his territory. He is actively associated with archeologists all over the world, being an active member of the International Society of Archeologists. His collection of Indian artifacts is the best in western Indiana. He is a very busy man, for, in addition to his regular school work and his archeological studies, research and writings, he finds time to write occasional articles for the *Hoosier State*, and has acted as special correspondent for several newspapers. "I sleep

when I get time," is his slogan, and he pretty nearly follows that program, for he is indefatigable in his studies, keeps thoroughly up-to-date in his pedagogical work, and has written several valuable and interesting volumes, among them, "In the Land of Wigwams," which is a resume of Indian life, manners, customs and implements, for busy students; "Mortuary Customs of Vermillion County" and "Mound Exploration of Vermillion County" are works which contain much valuable data and information, most of which has been collated and brought to light through the personal investigations of the author. Notwithstanding his busy programme, Mr. Stewart finds time to spend with his friends socially and is held in high esteem by all who enjoy his acquaintance.

On May 28, 1911, Mr. Stewart was united in marriage with Orpha M. Reed, the daughter of William H. Reed and wife, of Dana, Indiana.

---

#### PERRY HUXFORD.

This is an age in which the farmer stands pre-eminently above any other class as a producer of wealth. He simply takes advantage of the winds, the warm air, the bright sunshine and the refreshing rains, and with the help of the Creator and by virtue of his own skill in handling nature's gifts, he creates grain, hay, live stock and vegetables, all of which are absolute necessities to the inhabitants of the world. Nothing truer was ever uttered than that by the great Commoner of Nebraska: "Burn down your cities and leave our farms, and your cities will spring up again as if by magic; but destroy the farms and the grass will grow in the streets of every city."

One of the leading farmers of Florida township, Parke county, Indiana, is Perry Huxford, who was born on April 9, 1867, on the old Huxford homestead in this county, and he is a son of John and Matilda (Driver) Huxford, a well known old family here.

Perry Huxford grew to manhood in Florida township and there went to the common schools, working on the home place during his school years. His father was well-to-do, one of the most substantial agriculturists of the county, and when the subject reached the age of twenty-one years the elder Huxford gave him three thousand dollars, and the lad started in life for himself, buying the farm on which he still lives, consisting of about one hundred and thirty acres of fertile and fine farming land on the Huxford road in Florida township. He has met with misfortune, but has never been the kind of man to admit defeat, always forging ahead, despite obstacles. At one time he lost

one thousand dollars on hogs, but recovered from this set back in due course of time.

Mr. Huxford was married on February 19, 1887, to Mary A. Gellar, daughter of W. C. Gellar and wife, and to this union six children have been born, namely: Ivan R., who attended Purdue University, is at home; Tilla and Dilla, twins; Floyd is deceased; Bryan was next in order of birth, and Orvena is the youngest child.

Mr. Huxford is a member of the Christian church, and politically he is a Democrat, but he has never been in any respect a public man or seeker after public honors.

### HARRY BALES.

The family of which the subject of this sketch is an honored representative has been known in Vermillion county since the pioneer period and the record they have made has been one of which Mr. Bales can justly be proud. for his ancestors left a priceless heritage to their posterity, the memory of names and good deeds which time can neither obliterate nor dim. As a progressive agriculturist he ranks among the leaders in the vicinity of the town of Dana and as a citizen he is public spirited and useful.

Harry Bales was born February 23, 1867, on the farm where he still resides, in Vermillion county, Indiana, and he is a son of Caleb and Mary (Jordan) Bales, both natives of Indiana, the father born in Helt township, Vermillion county, and here devoted his life successfully to farming and died here on May 12, 1901. The mother's death occurred in 1872. They were the parents of two children, Harry, of this review, and E. C., who is connected with him in farming.

Harry Bales grew to manhood on the home place and there began working when but a boy. He received a good common school education in the neighboring schools and at the Dana high school. On September 19, 1893, he was united in marriage to Tott Crane, who was born January 14, 1867, in Helt township, Vermillion county, and there she grew to womanhood and received a common school education. She is a daughter of Stephen and Mariam Crane, a highly respected family of Helt township. To the subject and wife one child has been born, Mariam, whose birth occurred on January 22, 1900.

Mr. Bales began farming for himself early in life and has always followed this line of endeavor. He and his brother are now owners of three hundred and six acres of finely improved and productive land, nearly all

tillable but about sixty acres, and is fairly well tiled, most of the present improvements having been made by the subject, except the residence, which was built by his father. General farming, together with stock raising, is carried on extensively and most successfully, everything about the place denoting good management.

Fraternally, Mr. Bales is a member of the Masonic order and the Knights of Pythias at Dana, and in his church relations he is a Methodist. Politically, Mr. Bales has for some time been active in the ranks of the Republican party. He was appointed county commissioner in May, 1911, succeeding Mr. Davis, deceased, and this position he has filled to the entire satisfaction of all concerned.

#### JAMES H. ELLER.

Among the young men identified with the mining interests of Vermillion county who have gained a place among the leading citizens of their community is James H. Eller, at present the mine boss of the J. K. Deering mine No. 2, near Clinton. He comes of a family whose men have been accustomed to be leaders, and he himself is a strong representative of the ancestral virtues. His forefathers were residents of North Carolina, a state whose sons, wherever they have gone, have made themselves noted for their independence and aggressiveness, combined with a strong loyalty to duty.

James H. Eller is the son of Calvin and Sally (Hodge) Eller, and was born in Belmont county, Tennessee, May 21, 1869. Calvin Eller was born in Ashe county, North Carolina, April 12, 1830. He later removed from the state of his nativity to Tennessee. When a mere stripling he enlisted as a soldier in the Mexican war, and, in part as a result of his experience there gained, he was chosen a captain in the Confederate army, and fought entirely through that long and losing struggle, in loyal defense of the rights of his state. His war record was admirable, and exhibits him as a brave and fearless leader, ever careful of the welfare of the soldiers under him. At the close of the war he became the superintendent of a cotton mill in Tennessee, and later, in the spring of 1881, he removed to Indiana. Here he was interested in the lumber business for a time, then turned his attention to farming. He is now living in Fairview, Indiana, and in his old age is enjoying the respect of his neighbors. Sally Hodge Eller, his wife, was born in Tennessee, and died there in 1870.

James H. Eller, after spending his youth in connection with the lumber business of his father, entered the mines in 1888. His first work was in the



Norton Creek mine, north of Clinton. Later he was with the J. K. Deering Company, and on June 26, 1911, he came to the J. K. Deering mine No. 2 as boss, which position he now holds. During his twenty-five years' experience he has thoroughly learned mining in all its branches, and he is one of the most valuable men in the service of his company. Fraternally, Mr. Eller is a member of the Odd Fellows at New Goshen, and of the Red Men at Clinton. He is a member of the Methodist church, in which he takes an active part, and in politics has never swerved from the stanch Democracy of his fathers.

On November 2, 1894, Mr. Eller was married to Ida A. Battin, the daughter of Elijah and ——— (Newkirk) Battin. She was born in southern Indiana, on November 3, 1875. To this marriage were born four children, Margaret, Maud, Wilma and Grace, all at home, and these four charming daughters make their home a happy one for their parents and for each other.

---

#### HENRY SHEW.

Henry Shew was born in Wilkes county, North Carolina, November 14, 1815, and died at his home south of Clinton, Vermillion county, Indiana, May 12, 1904, being eighty-eight years, five months, and twenty-eight days of age. He emigrated to this state when but a boy, over seventy years ago, and settled on the farm where he died. He was married to Irene Hedges July 2, 1840, who was born December 3, 1823, in Clinton township. Her parents were William and Permelia Hedges, who came from New York and were among the first settlers of this country. She was the oldest of nine children. They established their home on a portion of the old Shew estate, about one-half mile south of Bethlehem church, the land having been pre-empted by his father, Daniel Shew. Here they spent their lives in contentment, not alone enjoying the pleasures of the community, but making life pleasant for others as well by their kind and unselfish deeds.

To this union were born five children, Lysander, Lester, Mrs. Lura Ann Hay, of Paoli, Kansas; Mrs. Direxa Pinson and Mrs. Allie Boatman.

This family circle was not broken by death until March 8, 1900, when the youngest daughter, Allie, was called to her home beyond. Only a short period of four years elapsed when the father was called to his long rest. Now that Death had made his inroad into the circle, it was only another short period of three years when the mother was called to join those gone before. Her death occurred Monday, April 8, 1907, after an illness of only a few days with pneumonia.



HENRY AND IRENE SHEW—A PICTURE OF PIONEER DAYS.

© 1913 509



With the departure of grandma and grandpa, the old home is left like the outgrown shell of life's unresting sea. Many are the friends who have missed their kind and loving words, but will always remember the beautiful life which they have left as a monument greater than any erected by mortal man. When contemplating the many happy reunions of relatives and friends at the old homestead, how sad to have to realize that its light has gone forever.

---

CLAY E. THOMAS.

The people who constitute the bone and sinew of this country are not those who are unstable and unsettled; who fly from this occupation to that; who do not know how to vote until they are told, and who take no active and intelligent interest in affairs affecting schools, churches and property of the public. The family of which Clay E. Thomas, progressive farmer of Vermillion township, is a most worthy representative is one of the old and highly honored ones of Vermillion county, who have been content to spend their lives in this locality, which they have seen develop from the wilderness to the high advancement which it claims today, and they have not only taken a leading part in this work of progress, but they have lived honest and intelligent lives, lending their support to all measures looking to the general good.

Mr. Thomas was born on the old Thomas homestead in this township and county on May 20, 1867, and he is a son of Jacob and Eliza (Bates) Thomas. The father was born in Vermillion county, on the same farm as was the subject, in 1838. The paternal grandfather of the subject was Eli Thomas, who was born in southern Indiana and who devoted his life to farming, coming to this county in a very early day and here he died. The father, Jacob Thomas, spent his life here and followed farming, and here his death occurred in 1896, his wife having preceded him to the grave in September, 1874. They were the parents of two children, Clay E., of this sketch, and Omar T., who died in early life.

Ten children were born to grandfather Eli Thomas and wife, five of whom are still living, namely: Louise J., who married J. S. Lonberger; Jerome B. lives in Cayuga; Winfield P. lives in Newport; Wesley D., a graduate of Wabash College, lives in Chicago; Harris P., also a graduate of Wabash, lives in Boston.

The father of the subject was a Republican, and he served as trustee of Vermillion township and was also county commissioner for six years. Fraternally, he was a member of the Masonic lodge at Newport.



Clay E. Thomas grew to manhood on the home farm and he received a common school education. In 1892 he was married to Alta Jones, who died in 1901. To this union one child was born, Lawrence D. Thomas. The subject was married a second time; in 1903 he was united to Almedia Walthall, daughter of William and Lydia (Branson) Walthall, old settlers of Vermillion county, farmers in Vermillion township, but they are both now deceased. Two children were born to this second union, Edgar W. Thomas and Lewis William Thomas.

Mr. Thomas has always followed farming and he has been very successful as a general farmer and stock raiser, being now the owner of a fine farm of two hundred and twenty-eight acres, well improved and well cultivated. He raises graded hogs, feeds and sells cattle, and is regarded as an excellent judge of all kinds of live stock. He has made all the modern improvements on his place himself, and he has a cozy home and substantial outbuildings. He belongs to the Friends church. His aunt, Mrs. Lonberger, is a member of the Eastern Star of Newport. Her husband was a Mason.

#### EDGAR R. HARRISON.

One of the most progressive and energetic citizens of Clinton, Vermillion county, Indiana, is Edgar R. Harrison, who has long been connected with the J. K. Deering mines in that part of the country. He is one of the foremost men in his community, always interested in every movement that tends to bring Clinton to the front in business and social life. He has used his influence to bring about cleaner political methods in that district, and has always stood for the rights of the laboring classes.

Mr. Harrison is the son of Clarence and Sopha (Weber) Harrison, who are both natives of Indiana. Clarence Harrison was born May 30, 1854, and is still living. His wife was born in 1861 and died in 1893. His father worked in the mines for a while, and was afterwards a policeman in Clinton. He had five children, all of whom are still living.

Edgar R. Harrison was born December 28, 1878, in Covington, Indiana, but the family left there when he was very young and came to Clinton, where Mr. Harrison spent his boyhood and attended the common schools. He was married to June M. Johnston, who was a native of Illinois, born April 18, 1884, and who received a common school education, supplemented by some special training.

During 1896 and 1897 Mr. Harrison was interested in a bakery, but

he soon found that his father's experience had a strong hold on his life and he decided to become a miner. He entered the mines of the J. K. Deering Mining Company and worked very faithfully there until he became boss of mine No. 2. He now is the boss of the J. K. Deering mine No. 5, having held this position since the first of January this year. Mr. Harrison and his wife have had six children, all of whom are at home. They are Raymond, Margaret, Dorothy, Esther, Arthur, Katherine and Louise. They all live on the home that their father owns near the mine where he is now occupied.

Mr. Harrison belongs to Lodge No. 1199, Order of Owls, in Clinton. He has always been progressive in politics, voting for the best man, rather than being restricted to conservative party demands. He was councilman for a while and was very careful and just in his performance of his duties during this time.

Mr. Harrison's thrift and activities in the public welfare have made him a substantial citizen, and he is also highly respected by his neighbors and friends. Though we do not always appreciate the fact, it is the workers in a community who are representative of that community, for it is the product of their own toil, and with this as a standard, Edgar R. Harrison may well stand as a standard bearer in the ranks of Vermillion county.

#### ISRAEL LAKE.

The long, active and unselfish life of Israel Lake, one of the best known citizens of Hillsdale, Vermillion county, has been one of untold helpfulness, for he has been active in the ministry for a period of thirty-five years, during which time he has won an abiding place in the hearts of the hosts of people whom he has addressed on behalf of the higher life, but, being a man of humanitarian impulses, he has not only led a life of usefulness by word, but also by deed, and hundreds can attest who have been the recipients of his kindness. He is one of the best known and most highly esteemed men in this locality, being as familiar and as popular in Parke, Fountain and Warren counties, as he is in Vermillion, numbering his friends by the scores in all of them.

Mr. Lake was born about four miles west of the village of Hillsdale, Vermillion county, Indiana, June 28, 1837. He is a son of William and Margaret (Thompson) Lake, both natives of Indiana and both now deceased. They spent their lives on a farm, and were honest, hospitable and well liked

by the pioneers among whom they resided. They became the parents of nine children, four of whom are still living.

Israel Lake grew to manhood in his native community and assisted with the general work on the home farm, and he has spent practically all of his life in his native county, which he has seen develop from a wilderness to one of the choice sections of the state, and in this development he has played no inconspicuous role. Schools being few and of very inferior quality and the work of the farm hard and of a nature which could not spare him, young Lake had no chance to secure an education and he did not learn to write until he had entered the army, but this early lack of mental training was made up for later in life by home study and close observation. It was in 1861 that he enlisted in the Union army, in the Ninety-seventh Indiana Infantry, in which he served very faithfully for a period of three years, lacking three weeks, under David Shelby and Capt. James Jordan. Mr. Lake saw considerable hard service, participating in seventeen battles and several important campaigns. After an honorable discharge he returned home and some time afterwards took up home study with a view of entering the ministry of the Christian church, and in due course of time he began preaching and continued active for a period of thirty-five years, during which he served many congregations and built up the work in many places, converting hundreds to a new life and doing an incalculable amount of good in many ways. He has always been popular with the people of this section of Indiana, and he is still active in church work, still preaching at Hillsdale.

On November 12, 1908, Mr. Lake was united in marriage to Mary J. (Wilkins) Vinson, a daughter of Rev. Zephaniah Wilkins, who was also a minister. She has two daughters by her former marriage, namely: Anna E., who married John Lovelace, and Carrie, who married Frank Campbell.

Mrs. Lake is also a minister in the Christian church and has been doing a most praiseworthy work for years. Like her husband, she took the home study course for the ministry prescribed by the conference of that denomination. She is still active in church work and is regarded by her very wide circle of friends and acquaintances as a woman of rare personal attributes of head and heart. She owns a good home in Stone Bluff, Fountain county, which she rents. Mr. Lake owns a cozy dwelling in Hillsdale.

Fraternally, Mr. Lake belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Montezuma. He is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, and politically is a Progressive.

Mrs. Lake is a charter member of Rebekah Lodge No. 671, at Stone Bluff, Fountain county, Indiana.

## JOHN D. BURKS.

One of the first citizens of Parke county, who passed away during the early part of this century, was John D. Burks, for many years one of the most highly respected men in Howard township. He was a man whose unquestioned honesty and integrity made everyone trust him, and whose kindly nature and unprejudiced justice endeared him to all.

John D. Burks was born May 12, 1845, in Parke county, Indiana. His father was Silas Burks, a native of Kentucky. He died in Union township, Parke county, June 9, 1886. His mother still lives in Washington township. Silas Burks was a farmer, spending most of his life in Parke county. He had ten children, four of whom are still living. John D. Burks spent his early life on the farm in Parke county, attending the county schools, and working on the farm.

On January 2, 1870, Mr. Burks married Mary S. Bruin, and they lived together on the farm in Howard township until his death, working side by side. She was born in Parke county, Indiana, July 17, 1854. Her father was Daniel Bruin, one of the first settlers at Guion, Indiana. She received a common school education. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Burks moved to the homestead in Howard township, where their three children were raised. Fountain L. and Laura M. Burks are dead. Only Nellie Ethel and her mother survive of the happy family. Nellie Ethel Burks was born October 10, 1875. She married Harvey C. Moore in 1900, and they moved to Washington, D. C., where he was until recently engaged in the insurance business, especially promoting new insurance companies. He now makes his home in Chicago, still engaged in the insurance business. Mr. and Mrs. Moore have one little daughter, Marian.

John D. Burks followed farming during his life. He was a general stock raiser and was very successful in his work. By bringing to bear on his farm a strong intellect and constant industry, he accumulated a great deal of property and improved it. When he died, on July 22, 1901, Mrs. Burks was left with two hundred and forty acres of fine tillable land, all of which is in Howard township, Parke county, Indiana. She was living in a splendid, modern home on the old home place, but in March, 1910, the house was destroyed by fire. It is soon to be replaced by one equally as good. Her farm is one of the best equipped properties in the neighborhood. Besides many other facilities she has a valuable large barn, which was completed about three years ago. She continues to manage the farm, carrying on general farming and stock raising. She was fortunate in being able to face the



future bravely when the responsibilities of the farm were left to her direction. She loves farming and the management of it. She is thoroughly capable, ambitious and has done well, raising fine cattle and hogs, corn and farm crops. She continues her work because she loves it, and is cheerful and optimistic. In case of shortage of hands to do her work she has shown that she can drive the mower or do other similar work if need be. She occasionally takes long trips for sight-seeing, having just returned from the Bermudas.

Mr. Burks' interests were not limited to his farm, though he faithfully devoted himself to his family and to it; he did a great deal to assist in the solving of the questions which his community had to face, and his advice and opinion were highly respected by his fellow citizens. Mr. Burks was a Democrat throughout his life, and he belonged to the Presbyterian church. He was also a Mason at Waveland, Indiana, and a member of the Knights of Pythias lodge of that place. At his death the whole district felt a distinct loss in the man who was a kind and devoted husband and father, a successful tiller of the soil, and a reliable, sincere citizen.

---

### FRED WOOD.

A man well known in the mining district of Parke and Vermillion county is Fred Wood, the present able and successful superintendent of the Lyford mine. He is a man who believes in doing his work well, and in order to do this he has been not only a close observer but has studied and kept abreast of the times in all that pertains to his line of endeavor.

Mr. Wood was born July 15, 1872, in Vigo county, Indiana, and is a son of Dan and Jean (Edwards) Wood. The father followed farming in Vigo county, becoming very well established through his long years of industry, and there he spent the rest of his life, being now deceased. He was born and reared in North Carolina, from which state he came to Vigo county, Indiana, when a young man and there established his permanent home. His family consisted of six children, namely: Ed Mose, Hattie, Lillie, Mary is deceased; Elias, and Fred, of this sketch.

Fred Wood grew to manhood on the farm of his parents in Vigo county and he assisted them on the homestead during his boyhood years. He received a common school education in his native community, and early in life he began following the mines and this he has continued ever since, in various positions, in all of which he has given his employers satisfaction. His first job was loading coal for a miner, for which he received fifty cents a day.

He then went to "tripping," opening doors in a mine to keep air supplied to the men working below. He then drove a mule and was making a man's wages when he was but fourteen years old. He then went to mining and later got a position as boss driver, later became mine boss, and eventually became superintendent, which position he now holds, discharging his responsible duties in a most acceptable manner to his employers.

Mr. Wood was married on August 30, 1891, to Rose Puett, daughter of Alec and Julia (Thomas) Puett. The Puett has been one of the best known families in this locality since the pioneer days. To the subject and wife four children have been born, namely: Lemmey, Harry, Ora and Ethel. The family is affiliated with the Christian church, Mrs. Wood being very active in church work.

---

#### S. M. ROBBINS.

This representative and honored citizen of Newport, Vermillion county, has been distinctively the architect of his own fortunes, has been true and loyal in all the relations of life and stands as a type of that sterling manhood which ever commands respect and honor. He is a man who would have won his way in any locality where fate might have placed him, for he has sound judgment, coupled with great energy and business tact, together with upright principles, all of which make for success wherever and whenever they are rightly and persistently applied. By reason of these principles he has won and retained a host of friends throughout this locality.

S. M. Robbins, well known liveryman and automobile agent at Newport, Indiana, was born in Rochester, this state, on December 1, 1864. He is a son of Andrew and Mary (Wilson) Robbins. The father devoted his life to farming, and he came to Vermillion township, Vermillion county, in 1880, and here spent the rest of his life, being now deceased. The mother of the subject passed away in 1891. They were the parents of eight children, seven of whom are still living.

S. M. Robbins grew to manhood on the home farm and received his education in the common schools. He began life for himself by farming on the home place, which he followed for five years, during which he got a good start, then took up the barber business, and followed that with much success for a period of twenty years at Newport and surrounding towns. He then went back to farming, but in 1910 he turned his attention to the automobile business, which he has continued to follow with marked success, handling the well known and late models of the Ford, Auburn and Hupp automobiles. He

has placed a very large number of these famous cars all over this section of the state. He also carries on a general livery business, for which he is exceptionally well equipped.

Mr. Robbins was married in 1892 to Alice Davidson, daughter of David C. and Abbie (Porter) Davidson. This union has been without issue. Her father and grandfather were among the earliest settlers of Vermillion county. Politically, Mr. Robbins is a Prohibitionist, but he has never been an aspirant for public office.

---

### CHARLES HOSFORD.

That "man lives not to himself alone" is an assurance that is amply verified in all the affairs of life, but its pertinence is the more patent in those instances where persons have so employed their inherent talents, so improved their opportunities and so marshaled their forces as to gain prestige, which finds its angle of influence ever broadening in practical beneficence and human helpfulness. He whose productive activities are directed along legitimate and normal lines is by very virtue of that fact exerting a force which conserves human progress and prosperity, and the man of capacity for business affairs of importance finds himself an involuntary steward upon whom devolve large responsibilities. To the extent that he appreciates these duties and responsibilities and proves faithful in his stewardship does he also contribute to the well being of the world in which he moves. Charles Hosford, the popular and able postmaster at the town of Cayuga, Vermillion county, Indiana, like his honored father before him, is a man who "does things" and this accomplishment is altogether worthy in all the lines in which he directs his energies. As a man of ability, sturdy integrity and usefulness, and as a citizen representative of the utmost loyalty, he merits consideration by his fellow men and his life record is deserving of a place in this publication, which touches those who have given to and sustained the civic and material prosperity and precedence of this locality.

Charles Hosford was born in Eugene township, Vermillion county, Indiana, August 4, 1874, and he is a son of Monroe G. and Sarah C. (Simpson) Hosford, and a grandson of Philo Hosford, the paternal grandfather having come to this county from his native state of New York as early as 1832 and here established the permanent home of the family and was an influential man among the early settlers. He was born in 1811 and died at Eugene in 1895. His wife, who was born in 1816, died in 1882. Monroe G. Hosford, father of the subject, grew to manhood and was educated at Eugene. He

began life for himself as clerk in a local store, which he continued for thirteen years, or until 1876, when he began in the mercantile business for himself, then turned his attention to milling and was burned out in 1883, but, nothing daunted, he built in 1884 the mill at Cayuga and this he has continued to operate to the present time, owning an elevator in connection with it, and is very successful and widely known in this business. He and Sarah C. Simpson were married in 1873 and they have three children: Charles, of this review; Daisy, and Lenore, wife of Herbert S. Johnston, of the Cayuga Milling Company.

Charles Hosford grew to manhood and was educated in Eugene and Cayuga. He was deputy county treasurer under his father from 1900 to 1904, then engaged in the real estate and insurance business with Shell J. James in Cayuga, later conducting a business in these lines alone. On July 2, 1912, he was appointed postmaster at Cayuga and is still discharging the duties of the same with satisfaction to all concerned. He formed a partnership about that time with Milton W. Coffin in the real estate and insurance business. He has been very successful in a business way. Politically, he is a staunch Republican, and he is a Mason.

Mr. Hosford was married on October 5, 1911, to Etta L. Kern, daughter of John A. Kern, of Ridge Farm, Illinois, and this union has resulted in the birth of one child, Monroe John Hosford.

---

### JAMES D. JAMES.

There are among the residents of the mining district of Vermillion county, many who have come from Wales and it has been noticed that they are without exception people of thrift, capability and law-abiding, men who do well whatever they turn their attention to and who are among our most efficient miners, no matter what position they are given. Such an element is always welcome anywhere in America. Among this number is James D. James, boss of one of the famous Crown Hill mines in Clinton township. He was born in the southern part of Wales, March 30, 1858, and is a son of William and Jane James, both of whom spent their earlier years in Wales, where the father was born. He finally emigrated to the United States, landing at New York City, but soon thereafter came to Coal Creek, Indiana, where he followed mining, also worked at the mines, later at Crib Creek, after which he came to Clinton, Vermillion county, Indiana, working in the mines here for some time. After leaving Clinton he went to Terre Haute, where



his death occurred at the age of seventy-five years, in the year 1912. His widow is still living. They became the parents of thirteen children, namely: James D., of this sketch, the eldest; William is deceased; Ann, who married William Edwards, lives in Clinton; David, Mary and John are all deceased; Lizzie; Edith was next in order of birth; Maggie is deceased; Mary Jane, Katherine and Martha all survive; Edres is deceased.

James D. James was young in years when he took up his residence in America. He first located at Coal Creek, Indiana, then went to Grape Creek, Illinois, later to Clinton, Indiana, in 1895. He has been actively engaged in and about the mines since eleven years of age, and has become familiar with all the phases of the mining industry. He has been mine boss since 1903, when Crown Hill Mine No. 2 was sunk, and he still has charge of the same, his long retention in this important position being sufficient evidence of his high grade and eminently satisfactory services. This mine is owned by the Clinton Coal Company, and has a capacity of eleven hundred and eighty tons daily. Its depth is one hundred and fifty feet. He is responsible for everything about the mine, men included, and he keeps everything in superb working order.

Fraternally, Mr. James belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias and the Owls. He has remained unmarried.

### ALBERT L. CLARK.

The beginning of the career of Albert L. Clark, well known liveryman of Newport, Vermillion county, was characterized by hard work and conscientious endeavor, and he owes his rise to no train of fortunate incidents or fortuitous circumstances. It has been the reward of mental qualifications of a high order in the affairs of business, the combining with accurate perceptions of mental activity that enabled him to grasp the opportunities that presented themselves. This he has done with success, and, what is of more importance, with honor. His integrity has ever been unassailable, and he stands high with all who know him.

Mr. Clark was born at Bedford, Lawrence county, Indiana, December 4, 1872. He is a son of Stephen F. and Anna (Lanning) Clark, natives of Bedford and Salem, Indiana, respectively. The father removed to Vermillion county, Indiana, in 1880, locating in Eugene township, and here he has since followed general farming, renting and operating, with his son, Albert L., about eight hundred acres of land. He has farmed and raised live

stock on a large scale and has met with large success. His family consists of the following children: **Albert L., subject of this review; Isaac Newton,** who lives in Chicago, is chief inspector for the Interchangeable Mileage Bureau; **Ida M. married W. D. Green,** a brick manufacturer of Segaine, Texas; **Leroy** is a school teacher; **Clarence** is farming at home.

**Albert L. Clark** was educated at **Bloomington, Indiana.** He came to the village of **Eugene, Vermillion county,** in 1886, and here he clerked for **G. L. Watson** from 1891 until 1900, giving him the utmost satisfaction, as might be inferred from his long retention, for he was quick to learn and was courteous and considerate to the patrons. In 1900 Mr. Clark purchased the livery business at **Cayuga,** which he has continued to conduct to the present time with ever-increasing success, and he is well known to the traveling public. He is well equipped in every respect for the successful carrying on of the same, keeping an excellent grade of horses, good buggies, etc. He also operates a dray and transfer line here, and is well patronized.

Mr. Clark has taken an interest in public affairs and was elected trustee of **Eugene township** in 1908 and has discharged the duties of that office in a manner that reflects credit upon himself and to the satisfaction of all concerned.

Mr. Clark was married on December 24, 1896, to **Martha J. Iles,** daughter of **J. B. Iles,** of **Eugene,** and to this union two children have been born, namely: **Lucy, born in 1899, and Susie, born in 1904.**

Politically, Mr. Clark is a Democrat and is active in the ranks. Fraternally, he belongs to the **Knights of Pythias** and the **Independent Order of Odd Fellows.**

Mr. Clark has been very successful in a financial way and besides his extensive livery and transfer business he is the owner of twenty acres of land in which there is a **valuable coal deposit.**

### CHARLES FREMONT MILLER.

A leading farmer and public spirited citizen of **Helt township, Vermillion county,** is **Charles Fremont Miller,** a descendant of one of the sterling pioneer families of this section of the Hoosier state. Here he has spent his life and has so directed his course as to gain not only material success, but the good will of all who know him and has at the same time been of much assistance to the upbuilding of the community.

Mr. Miller was born a mile northwest of **St. Bernice, Helt township,**

Vermillion county, Indiana, July 8, 1857, and is a son of Jacob and Phoebe A. (Helt) Miller. The father was born in Washington county, Pennsylvania, and from that state moved with his parents, Jacob and Barbara (Freed) Miller, to Kentucky. Jacob Miller, Sr., went to Wisconsin, locating near Monroe in a very early day and there he spent the rest of his life, dying at the advanced age of ninety years. Grandfather Daniel Helt was a soldier in the war of 1812, under Colonel Puntney. He was one of the very early settlers on Helt Prairie, Vermillion county, the prairie and township having been named for him. The Helt family has been one of the best known in this county from the days of its first settlement to the present. Daniel Helt married Polly Teehom, who has seven children, and eight more children were born to her by her union with Mr. Helt, the mother of the subject of this sketch being the eldest by the second marriage. Although rearing that large family and working hard as pioneer women did, she lived to reach the great age of ninety-four years. Daniel Helt died at the age of eighty-six years. The mother of the subject died in Vermillion county at the age of eighty-three years, at the old Helt homestead, where the family was reared. All that large family grew to manhood and womanhood. There were eight children in the family of the subject's father, Jacob Miller, Jr., namely: Indiana, who died when twenty-three years old, had married L. A. Bullington, and they had one child, Della, who is living in Portland, Oregon; Mary Jane, who died at the age of twenty-three years; Daniel H., who lives in Helt township; Sylvester lives in Helt township; Bloomer lives in Centralia, Illinois; Charles Fremont, of this review; Emma, who married Henry Harris, a merchant in Illinois; Jacob, Jr., of Lawton, Oklahoma. Both the Miller and Helt families are of German descent, their progenitors having settled in Pennsylvania in a very early day.

Charles F. Miller grew to manhood on the home farm and there he assisted with the general work when a boy, receiving his education in the common schools, then took to trading in live stock and farming, and has continued in these lines of endeavor to the present time, with ever-increasing success. He is now the owner of one of the choice farms of Helt township, consisting of four hundred acres, well improved and under a high state of cultivation, and here he has long carried on general farming and stock raising on an extensive scale. He has a pleasant home and large, convenient out-buildings, everything about his place denoting that a gentleman of thrift and good management has its management in hand. He has given each of his children over a thousand dollars.

Mr. Miller was married in 1896 to Sarah A. Reed, daughter of David A.

and Nancy M. (Wishard) Reed. The father was a native of South Carolina, from which state he came to Vermillion county, Indiana, in a very early day and here became well established through his industry. Three children have been born to the subject and wife, namely: The first, an infant, died unnamed; Frank R. and Daniel T. The latter is a practicing physician at Terre Haute. He was graduated from the University of Indiana and the Indiana Medical College at Indianapolis, later taking the course at the old Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He is making a great success as a general practitioner. The other son, Frank R. Miller, was graduated from the common schools and the high school at Clinton, Indiana, also from the Indiana University Law School, and is practicing his profession with marked success in Clinton, ranking among the leading young lawyers of the county. In the campaign of 1912 he was a candidate on the Progressive ticket for attorney-general of Indiana, and he made a brilliant race.

The wife of Charles F. Miller was called to her eternal reward on June 4, 1907, at the age of fifty years, her birth having occurred on December 22, 1867.

Politically, Mr. Miller is a Progressive, but he has never been a seeker after office, though he was appointed by Judge Aikman on the tax equalization board, but refused to serve. Religiously, he is a Methodist Protestant.

### WILLIAM N. TUCKER.

Among the young men of Vermillion county who have appreciated present-day opportunities, and one who has profited by his ingenuity and persistence in the world's affairs as a result of the favorable conditions existing in this favored section of the Hoosier commonwealth, is William N. Tucker, one of the well known and highly efficient engineers of the mining district of Clinton township, and, judging from his pronounced success in the past in his chosen field of endeavor, we can but predict a large measure of success for the future.

Mr. Tucker was born in Champaign county, Illinois, December 5, 1884. He is a son of John E. and Emily (Blair) Tucker, the father a native of Illinois, where he grew to manhood and was educated in the common schools, then took up farming, in which vocation he is still active. His wife was called to her eternal rest on December 23, 1906. Seven children were born to John E. Tucker and wife, namely: Margaret, Nancy, Jerry M., Walter, Rose, Stephen and William N., the subject, who was the youngest of the family.



William N. Tucker grew to manhood on the home farm in Illinois and there assisted with the general work about the place during the summer months, and in the winter time he attended the public schools in his neighborhood. Early in life he began following the mines and paid especial attention to the machinery end of this field of endeavor, with the result that he has become an expert in engineering and has held many responsible positions at various mines, and is at this writing engineer and foreman of Ed Shirkee Mine No. 2, the duties of which he is discharging in a manner that is entirely acceptable to his employer. He is responsible for all the hoisting apparatus, the curbing in the shaft, in fact, everything both top and bottom, and keeps all machinery in repair. As foreman, he is boss of both top and bottom, both of the machinery and shaft. He understands everything about the mine, having had much previous experience, including that of track boss at Dayton, Ohio, and Terre Haute, Indiana, and held a number of good, responsible positions at various places.

Mr. Tucker has never married.

---

### RALPH V. HUGHES.

Success in this life comes to the deserving. It is an axiom demonstrated by all human experience that a man gets out of this life what he puts into it, plus a reasonable interest on the investment. The individual who inherits a large estate and adds nothing to his fortune cannot be called a successful man. He that falls heir to a large fortune and increases its value is successful in proportion to the amount he adds to his possession. But the man who starts in the world unaided and by sheer force of will, controlled by correct principles, forges ahead and at length reaches a sphere of honor among his fellow citizens achieves success such as representatives of the two former classes can neither understand nor appreciate. To a considerable extent Ralph V. Hughes, of Newport, Vermillion county, is a creditable representative of the last named class, a member of that sterling type which has furnished much of the bone and sinew of the country and added to the stability of our institutions.

Mr. Hughes was born in Vermillion county, Indiana, September 13, 1887, and he is a son of John A. and Anna (Merriman) Hughes. The father was born in Eugene township, this county, June 1, 1864. The paternal grandparents, John and Sophia (Bishop) Hughes, were natives of Kentucky and Ohio, respectively. They came to Vermillion county in an early

day and followed farming, becoming well known among the early settlers. John A. Hughes was reared and educated in this county, and early in life took up farming here, which he has continued. Fourteen years were devoted to the management of the county poor farm, which he operated with much success and satisfaction to all concerned. He and Jane Merriman were married on June 14, 1884. She is a daughter of Jonathan Merriman. To John A. Hughes and wife were born the following children: Beatrice, Ralph V., and John Clyde, who died in infancy. The father is a member of the Methodist church. He is a Republican and was county treasurer from 1906 to 1910, filling the office with much satisfaction to all concerned. Fraternally, he is a Mason, a member of the Knights of Pythias and the Modern Woodmen of America. He is the owner of one hundred and twenty acres of well improved and productive land.

Ralph V. Hughes grew to manhood on the home farm and was educated in the common schools of his neighborhood, and he followed farming for some time upon starting in life for himself. From 1907 to 1910 he was employed in the county treasurer's office. After this he engaged in the grocery business for six months with Martin Hollingsworth, then entered the Citizens State Bank at Newport as cashier, which position he has since held to the satisfaction of the stockholders and patrons of the bank, being known as a courteous, obliging and strictly honest gentleman who merits the respect of all. Some time ago, in partnership with H. T. Payne, he purchased the Newport Hill Garage from S. M. Robbins, and this he still owns.

Mr. Hughes is a member of the Methodist church. Politically, he is a Republican, and is prominent in fraternal circles. He is a member of the Masonic order, the Knights of Pythias, Order of the Eastern Star, Pythian Sisters, Royal Neighbors and Modern Woodmen of America.

---

### GEORGE E. DICKENSON.

In any community, the man who is ready to accept new ideas that will help him and his neighbors, the man who looks the question of the common good of himself and his neighbors, politically, socially and in a business way, straight in the face, and whose judgment is not biased by prejudice and slander, is the man who is responsible for the progress of the community. If it were not for him the world would stand still. There are a number of such men in Vermillion county, Indiana, and George E. Dickenson, of Clinton, Indiana, holds a prominent position in their ranks.

Mr. Dickenson was born on a farm in Fountain county, Indiana, February 18, 1882, son of Joe and Emma Dickenson. His father was a native of Pennsylvania, where he was born in the early part of the nineteenth century. He received an ordinary education in that state, and moved west, where he was occupied as an engineer. He married Emma Williamson, a native of Fountain county, Indiana, and they lived in this state for many years. Mr. Williamson died in Danville, Illinois, March 24, 1910, and his wife still lives in Clinton, Indiana. They had five children, three of whom are still living. Joe Williams is well remembered as a veteran of the Civil war, as one of those men who left their homes and families in the cause of the Union in 1864 and sacrificed some of the best years of their lives on the altar of the nation. His record of those days will be cherished by his descendants for many generations.

George E. Dickenson lived the early part of his life on the farm, receiving a common school education, which has been liberally supplemented by experience and reading. He was married July 24, 1905, to Bessie M. Peck, who was born August 24, 1883. From his youth Mr. Dickenson has been interested in coal mines, and in 1902 he became an engineer at Crown Hill mine No. 2, where he is still working. He is very much interested in progress in his work and is a member of the United Mine Workers of America. His ideas are progressive along all lines and he is an ardent upholder of the new political party, which is the work of men such as Mr. Dickenson.

Mr. Dickenson has two boys, Donald and Ralph, and by training them with the new thoughts to which he has been so receptive himself he will forward his service to his community and his country.

### BENJAMIN O. CARPENTER.

One of the well known business men of Perrysville, Vermillion county, Indiana, is Benjamin O. Carpenter, widely known for many years as proprietor of the local mills, a man who seems to possess just a sufficient amount of modesty to be a gentleman at all times and yet sufficient persistency to win in the business world and at the same time not appear over bold. As a result of these strong and happily blended qualities, Mr. Carpenter has not only met with a large measure of material success, but has won a host of friends throughout the locality of which this history treats, being well known to all as a man of influence, integrity and business ability and as a gallant veteran of the world's greatest war, during which he did what he could toward the perpetuity of the Union.

Mr. Carpenter was born in Tippecanoe county, Indiana, on September 12, 1842, and is a son of John and Ellen (Euel) Carpenter. The father was born in Ross county, Ohio, in 1808, and his death occurred in December, 1868. The mother was born in Ohio and her death occurred in Indiana about 1843. John Carpenter followed farming in his earlier years, but later owned and operated a mill in Warren county. He took a deep interest in politics and was one of the first to ally himself with the Republican party in 1856 and encourage its organization. His family consisted of seven children, five of whom are still living.

Benjamin O. Carpenter received a good public school education. On January 31, 1867, he married Mary Davidson, who was born on June 3, 1848, in Vermillion county, Indiana, at Perrysville, and here she grew to womanhood and received a common school education. She was a daughter of Dr. Fanton and Mary (Lacy) Davidson, a well known family of Perrysville in a past generation, Mr. Davidson being now deceased. To the subject and wife two children have been born: Bertha is deceased; Carl is married and is engaged in the telephone business in Perrysville, and at this writing he is serving as township trustee.

Benjamin O. Carpenter first began life for himself as a farmer, later turned his attention to the milling business in Perrysville, and this has since been his vocation. He now owns the Perrysville Flouring Mills, which turn out from two to four barrels of flour an hour, and, owing to the superior quality of the output, it finds a very ready market all over the country. He has been very successful in the milling business and is one of the best known mill men in this section of the state. Besides his mill property, he owns a large and pleasant home in Perrysville. Politically, he is a Democrat. He belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church, in which he is treasurer and a steward—in fact, has long been one of the main pillars of the local congregation. Fraternally, he belongs to the Masonic order at Perrysville.

Mr. Carpenter enlisted in 1862 in Warren county, in Company D, Eighty-sixth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, under Capt. Louis Stephens, and he saw much hard service, participating in many of the great battles of the war, including Stone's River, Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge, and those incident to the Atlanta campaign, in which he engaged for one hundred and twenty days, being in almost a continuous skirmish and battle. He then went to Lovejoy Station, where there was a fight, then was sent to Nashville, Tennessee, and was in the battle there, after which he did not see much service, having been mustered out at Nashville on June 6, 1865, and honorably discharged, after which he returned home and resumed milling.



## THOMAS GREGORY.

Among the chief assets of the self-made man is the broad and thorough knowledge he has of every detail of his business and his familiarity with the point of view of those who work for him, for, as a rule, the self-made man has started at the lowest rung of the ladder in his particular line of business and climbed steadily upward through efficiency in every department. Thomas Gregory has in this way learned the business of mining, and the high position he now holds in that industry in Vermillion county, Indiana, has been won through his persistence and industry.

Vermillion county cannot, however, claim this man as a native. He was born in Lancashire, England, May 9, 1855, the son of William and Sarah (Derbyshire) Gregory. William Gregory was born March 11, 1803, in Lancashire, England, and his wife was also a native of that country, dying there before her husband and son came to the United States. For the last twenty-eight years of his life William Gregory lived in Vermillion county, Indiana. His occupation during his whole life, both in England and in this country, was that of a miner and mine manager, and he was very successful in his work. He had eleven children, three of whom are still living. The boyhood of Thomas Gregory was spent in England, and from the age of ten years he was attracted to the mines, his highest ambition being to work in them and accomplish some of the enormous tasks which he witnessed in childish awe. As soon as he was old enough and had completed his common school education, his father allowed him to take some of the minor positions in the mines, and from that time on his progress in this work was steady. In 1875 he came to this country for the first time, and later came here permanently, settling in Vigo county, Indiana, where he lived for thirty-one years, up to November, 1911, when he took up the work in Vermillion county.

January 1, 1875, Mr. Gregory was married to Ellen Howarth, who also was a native of England, being born in that country in 1854. They have had eleven children, nine of whom are still living: Mary married Mr. Garwood, a mine boss near Bunsen; Samuel is dead; Sarah married Mr. Steward, of Shellville, Indiana, and they live in that place; Isabell married Mr. Tanner; James is attending Wabash College, and spends his vacations in the mines at Bunsen; William Gregory died; Eleanor is single; Elizabeth is living at home; Betty is dead, and John and Nina are living at home.

Mr. Gregory is a member of the Knights of Pythias, the Improved Order of Red Men and the Order of the Owls, and is connected with the Travelers'

Protective Association. In all his activities Mr. Gregory has always stood for the highest integrity and worked for the greatest good for the largest number. He is a member of the Episcopal church, and has been a Republican since he has been in this country. He has progressed steadily in his work, doing all the duties of every task carefully, and he has held every position in the mine from the bottom up. He is now superintendent of the Universal Bunsen Coal Company mines. He has thrived and now owns two pieces of property in Vigo county where he is highly thought of and respected as one of the best citizens and best informed miners in this part of the country.

#### DAVID W. GRIFFITHS.

Many of the commendable traits characteristic of the sturdy Welsh people are noticeable in David W. Griffiths, one of the efficient mine bosses of Clinton township, Vermillion county, and it has been through those traits of thrift, perseverance, fortitude and adherence to right principle that has caused him to win in his battle with the world. He has never had the habit of depending on someone else to do either his planning or his work, and when he had a given task to perform he took up the same with alacrity and carefulness, believing in the old adage that whatever is worth doing at all is worth doing well. He is also a man of integrity and always reliable.

Mr. Griffiths was born in the southern part of Wales, October 10, 1866, the son of John and Mary (Evans) Griffiths, both of whom were natives of Wales where they grew up, were married and spent their lives, never coming to America, and they both died in their native land. They were hard working honest people.

David W. Griffiths grew to manhood in Wales and there received his education, and, believing that better opportunities existed for him in the United States than in his own country, or anywhere in the British Isles or the Continent, he set sail for our shores in 1883, when twenty-seven years of age, landing in New York City. Soon thereafter he came on to Danville, Illinois, where he took up mining, later going from there to Sullivan county, Indiana, thence to Clinton, Vermillion county, and here he has since remained, following the mines, in which line of endeavor he has become an expert and is at this writing mine boss of Crown Hill No. 4, which mine has a depth of two hundred and seventy-four feet and a capacity of seven hundred tons of coal daily. This mine is run entirely with electricity, having three motors, not a single mule being used about the mine. It is one of the best and oper-

ated in the most up-to-date manner of any mine in this locality. The subject's position is a very responsible one. He has charge of everything and is responsible for whatever is under the ground—machinery, men and equipment of all kinds. But he has everything under a superb system and no trouble is experienced, for he understands perfectly every phase of the mining business, and gives the utmost satisfaction to his employers.

Mr. Griffiths was married in 1887 to Maggie James, daughter of William and Jane James, and to this union seven children have been born, named as follows: Annie, who married John Wilson, of Clinton, this county; Jennie, Lizzie, Margie, John, Martha and Blodmen. The younger children are all at home. Fraternally, Mr. Griffiths is a member of the Improved Order of Red Men, and religiously he belongs to the Christian church.

---

### GEORGE L. FINNEGAN.

Although George L. Finnegan has only been in Vermillion county a few years, he has made himself necessary to the community and is popular with his friends and neighbors. He has in his blood a Celtic strain which has enabled him to look at life with a half humorous, half serious attitude, and take all that comes to him in an optimistic and sensible way. This characteristic, together with his determination and his amiable way of dealing with his fellowmen, have given him a place of responsibility in the mines in Vermillion county.

Mr. Finnegan is the son of Patrick and Adilia (Mogan) Finnegan. His father was born in 1840 in West Virginia, and died in May, 1885. His mother was born in 1844 in Ireland. She came to this country at the age of eleven years, and she died on November 11, 1884. Both Patrick and Adilia Finnegan had a common school education. George L. Finnegan was born December 20, 1878, near Urichsville, Ohio. As soon as he finished his education in the common schools he went to Virginia, taking a position in the dry goods store of his uncle in Wheeling. He was not satisfied with that work and went to work in a printing office, where he stayed about a year. After this he became an apprentice with the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. From there Mr. Finnegan went to Scottdale, Pennsylvania, where he took a position with the Frick Coke Company.

On the 6th of September, 1905, Mr. Finnegan married Anna Belle Brow, who was born April 9, 1884, in Scottdale, Pennsylvania, where she spent her girlhood days and received a common school education. They have had no

children. After his marriage, Mr. Finnegan worked for several companies in Pittsburgh, chief of which was the Pittsburgh Locomotive Works. In 1910 he came to Illinois with the Bunsen Coal Company, with whom he had become identified, and from there it was the natural thing to come to Vermillion county, Indiana, where this company is largely interested. He came to Clinton in April, 1911, as master mechanic with the Bunsen Coal Company, and is proving himself to be a valuable man to the company. Mr. Finnegan is an Elk at Scottdale, Pennsylvania. He is a member of the Catholic church, and is Republican in his political convictions. He is a man of broad experience, and is so bright, intelligent and energetic that he is a great addition to the mining industry in Vermillion county, Indiana.

#### JUDGE A. GARWOOD.

One of the energetic young mine workers of Vermillion county who has been very successful in his work in the mines near Clinton, Indiana, is Judge A. Garwood. Great benefits for the whole state of Indiana are derived from these coal fields in Vermillion county, and they not only supply a large part of the state with this very essential product of nature, but bring to this part of the country the best miners in the United States. We have many examples of this, especially in those mines that are controlled by the Bunsen Company, and it is with this concern that Judge A. Garwood is connected.

Mr. Garwood is the son of Judge Levy and Milly (Grawl) Garwood, natives of Indiana. His father was born in the early part of the nineteenth century, and died January 7, 1873, his mother dying the same year. Both his father and mother had a common school education, his mother being a school teacher for a number of years. They had three children, all of whom are still living. Judge A. Garwood was born October 26, 1873, in Blackford county, Indiana. His parents both dying that year, the boy had to overcome many things when he was young that most children do not have to contend with. He received a common school education and married at the age of twenty-two on January 16, 1895. His wife was Mary Gregory, who was born in England on June 9, 1876. They have had seven children, namely: Nellie Gregory, deceased; William, Ninabelle, Thomas Lee, Judge, Norman and Eubert are at home.

Judge A. Garwood, as a boy, became interested in farming and as soon as he finished school he turned his attention to agriculture as his life work. Later, however, his attention was attracted to mining, and he gave up his farm



and went to work in the mines in Fountain county, Indiana. For three years he was a street car motorman, and then he came to Vermillion and in 1911 he went to work with the Bunsen Company.

Mr. Garwood has been actively interested in the affairs of Clinton since he has lived there. He is a good, reliable citizen and has gained the highest respect of his friends and neighbors. He is a Redman at Bunsen and a member of the United Mine Workers of America. He is an industrious man and of the saving rather than the extravagant and careless type. Judge A. Garwood owns a home in Terre Haute, Indiana, but has not yet invested in property in Clinton, Indiana. Any community should welcome such a resident and Mr. Garwood has indeed proved himself worthy of esteem.

#### CHARLES M. LOWLOR.

Among the successful miners in Vermillion county, near Clinton, Indiana, is Charles M. Lowlor, who is a native of Indiana, and was attracted to this part of the state by the coal fields of the vicinity. He is now one of the most prominent citizens of Clinton, and is a man of influence both in the mines, with his fellow-workmen and among his neighbors and friends. He has taken an active part in the great machine which is giving the whole state the benefit of the coal, and his efforts have met with reward.

The subject's father was E. M. Lowlor, who was born December 22, 1847, in Indiana, and is still living, his residence also being in Clinton. His mother was Marguerite (Fulwilder) Lowlor, who also was a native of Indiana, being born near Rockville. She died September 6, 1891. E. M. Lowlor has been a blacksmith nearly all his life and is very well known in his community. He had four children, three of whom are still living.

Charles M. Lowlor was born October 12, 1870, near Rockville, Indiana. He spent his youth around the forge and helped his father a great deal in his work. After finishing the common schools, Charles M. Lowlor turned his attention entirely to the trade of a blacksmith for a while. In 1896, on the 5th of July, he married Emma M. Hall, who was born February 7, 1877, near Covington, Fountain county, Indiana. She had a common school education. Charles M. and Emma M. Lowlor are the parents of six children, all of whom are living at home. The first child was Lawrence, and then came Levy, Lola, James, Louise and Clyde.

At the age of twenty-one Mr. Lowlor left his father's forge and started out for himself in the blacksmith business. He was dissatisfied with this

work, however, and in 1903 he determined to take up mining. He got a splendid start, being made top boss at mine No. 16 with the Bronillet's Creek Coal Company, and he found the work very much to his liking and was successful in his position. Later he came to Clinton, Indiana, with the Oak Hill Coal Company, and soon went to work for the Ed. Shirkie & Bogle Mine Company as top boss, and now holds this position.

Mr. Lowlor is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and is active in the work, especially where his influence may be of value. He is a Democrat and a loyal upholder of the principles of his party. It is such men as Mr. Lowlor, honest, industrious, conscientious and progressive citizens, who form the main strength of this country, and, though not accompanied by the flare of torchlight and the beating of drums, it is the work of these men that counts in the end.

#### DR. FLOYD MORTON KEARNS.

One of the most promising veterinary surgeons of Vermillion county is Dr. Floyd Morton Kearns, of West St. Bernice. He is yet young in years, but he has proven that he has a great natural ability in his chosen field of endeavor and that he has very carefully and thoroughly prepared himself for his vocation. He has not been practicing long, but he has had most encouraging success and has already gained the confidence of the people of this section of the county, and a most successful future is freely predicted for him. Added to his skill and acute knowledge of the horse, is a genial and obliging manner and honesty of purpose, which have made him popular with those with whom he comes in contact.

Dr. Kearns was born on March 26, 1890, in Vermillion county, Indiana, and he is a son of Grant and Rose (Richard) Kearns. The father was born on December 7, 1867, in Harrison county, Missouri, and the mother of the subject was born in Vermillion county, Indiana, on February 17, 1866. They each received common school educations. They are living in West St. Bernice, being very comfortably established, the elder Kearns being engaged in farming. They are the parents of two children:

Dr. Kearns was reared in his native community and there he received a good education in the public schools. Later he went to Chicago and took a full course in the Chicago Veterinary College, where he made a splendid record and from which institution he was graduated with the class of 1911. He soon returned to Vermillion county and opened an office for practice at

the village of West St. Bernice, in the spring of that year. He has no competition nearer than Dana, and therefore has an excellent field and has gotten a most encouraging start. He has been very successful with all cases. In connection with his father, he owns a well equipped and modernly appointed veterinary office and livery barn, and they are well prepared to accommodate the general public and have a good trade, which is constantly growing. They are also owners of a productive and valuable farm of eighty-two acres at Hillsdale, nearly all under cultivation.

Fraternally, Dr. Kearns belongs to the Masonic order at Dana, and the Woodmen at that place. He has remained unmarried.

### HARRY J. RICHARDS.

One of the deserving young men of Vermillion county who has won success solely because he has worked persistently for it is Harry J. Richards, one of the most expert machinists of this locality and who is now general foreman of the round house at West Clinton, where he is popular with his employers and the men, owing to his high grade work, his conscientious management and his genial personal characteristics.

Mr. Richards was born on August 9, 1884, at Bedford, Indiana, the son of G. A. and Louise (Evans) Richards. The subject's paternal grandfather was a native of Pennsylvania. G. A. Richards was born in Terre Haute, Indiana. His wife, Louise Evans, also a native of this state, died on May 6, 1909. They were both educated in the common schools, and they were the parents of seven children, five of whom are still living. G. A. Richards took up railroading when a young man and he made this line of endeavor his principal life work. For many years he was superintendent of bridge construction and was regarded as a most expert bridge man. He is now living retired.

Harry J. Richards received a common school education and on June 23, 1912, was married to Frances Welch, who was born October 7, 1887, in Terre Haute, Indiana. She is a daughter of T. J. Welch.

Harry J. Richards began learning the machinist's trade when but a boy, and this has been his life vocation. He began as low as fifty cents a day, his first experiences being gained at Bedford, Indiana. After finishing his apprenticeship he traveled extensively through the Western states as railroad machinist, returning to Indiana in 1908 and locating in Terre Haute, where he began work as a machinist. He was subsequently promoted to the position

of round house foreman, from there he was transferred to Bedford as assistant general foreman of the Bedford shops, and from there he was sent to Clinton in October, 1911, where he is still stationed, giving eminent satisfaction to all concerned as general foreman of the round house in West Clinton where he has everything under a superb system and all running like a Swiss clock. Thirteen engines can be housed here. He has been with the Clinton, Terre Haute & Southeastern railroad since he came to Clinton.

Politically, Mr. Richards is a Republican and, fraternally, he belongs to Lodge No. 824, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, at Bedford.

### HOLBERT DAVIS.

We of the present generation do not fully realize what it meant for the young men of half a century ago, with life's bright promises before them, to leave business, the comforts of home and the pleasures of associations with family and friends and go out to do or die in the world's greatest war, in which they suffered indescribably, at times, "in order that the nation might live." But they, our honored sires, did it, gladly and well, and today no man should be the recipient of greater esteem by us than the old veteran, who wore the blue. One such was Holbert Davis, a successful farmer of Union township, Parke county.

Mr. Davis was born on September 23, 1841, in the above named township and county on the farm on which he still lives, it having been his great privilege to spend his life on the old homestead. He is a son of Samuel and Barbara (Miller) Davis. The father was born on May 20, 1800, in Butler county, Ohio, where he spent his early manhood years, being twenty-five years old when, in 1825, he removed to Indiana and here spent the rest of his life, dying on December 27, 1879, at an advanced age. The mother of the subject was born in Ohio also, and her death occurred in 1843. Samuel Davis received a good education and he took an influential interest in political matters, and in 1850 he was a member of the constitutional convention. He was a tanner by trade and also operated a farm. His family was exceptionally large, consisting of fifteen children, seven of whom are still living. He was twice married.

Holbert Davis received a good common school education and he grew to manhood on the home farm. On August 25, 1864, he was united in marriage to Sarah Beachamp, who was born on August 6, 1844, in Adams township, Parke county, and there grew to womanhood and received a public



school education. She is a daughter of Eli and Frances (Crooks) Beachamp. Three daughters have been born to this union, namely: Laura E., born February 28, 1867, is living at home; Ida, born November 11, 1868, married Perry Mitchell and they live on a farm in Union township, Parke county; Barbara, born on June 18, 1875, married Walter B. Stark, and they also live on a farm in Union township.

Mr. Davis has always been a farmer and stock raiser and has been very successful, being now the owner of a splendidly improved farm of one hundred and three acres, all in Union township, about sixty-nine acres being tillable, the rest in timber land. Mr. Davis made all the improvements on his place, and he has a good farm and a comfortable home.

On July 29, 1862, Mr. Davis enlisted in the Seventy-eighth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, under Captain Humphries. He served in only one battle, which lasted about two hours. He was paroled and sent home, and was discharged in September, 1862.

Mr. Davis belongs to the United Brethren church, in which he is a trustee. Politically, he is a Republican.

---

### WILLIAM JOHNSTON, JR.

One of the young men of Parke county who is rapidly winning his way to success in the mining fields of this locality is William Johnston, Jr., who is very ably discharging the duties of pit boss with the Mecca Coal Company. He knew from the first that success in future years depends on how well he did his work as a beginner, whether or not he learned the basic principles thoroughly, and also whether he conducted himself as a gentleman in the truest sense of the word. With these things in view, he has forged ahead steadily.

Mr. Johnston was born on February 8, 1882, in Greene county, Ohio, and he is a son of William J., Sr., and Elizabeth (Darrah) Johnston. The father was born in Ireland, in which country he grew to manhood, and there was married, his wife having also been a native of the Emerald Isle. They emigrated to the United States soon after their marriage, and took up their home in Clay county, Indiana, later removing to Parke county. The father has always worked about the mines. He is still living, making his home in the village of Mecca, this county, but the mother was called to her eternal rest on July 3, 1909. They became the parents of five children, three of whom are still living.

Mr. Johnston, of this review, received a common school education. On January 21, 1901, he was united in marriage to Rena M. Andrews, who was born in Parke county, Indiana, here grew to womanhood and received her education in the public schools. She is a daughter of Ira and Hannah (Mowling) Andrews. To this union two children have been born, namely: William O., who is in school, and Mary R.

Mr. Johnston has always worked about the mines, starting first by digging with his father, and worked up step by step until, on November 16, 1911, he became pit boss with the Mecca Coal Company of Parke county, and he has since discharged the duties of this responsible position in a manner that has been entirely acceptable to all concerned. Fraternally, he is a member of the Knights of Pythias at Mecca and, politically, he is a Republican. He is a young man of good habits and stands well with all who know him.

---

#### GEORGE W. GRIFFIN.

Reared to the free and healthful life of a husbandman and trained from boyhood in the various phases of that vocation, George W. Griffin, of the vicinity of Clinton, Indiana, has never cared for other lines of endeavor and so he has succeeded at this, for the person of contemplative mind will agree that the young man who decides early what his life work is to be and adheres persistently to one thing will be much more likely to succeed than if he cast about from one thing to another, seeking "something more suitable."

Mr. Griffin was born in 1857 in the state of Iowa, but his parents brought him to Florida township, Parke county, Indiana, when he was but a child and here he was reared to manhood on the home farm on which he worked when a boy, and he received his education in the public schools of that township. He is a son of Hiram and Lucy Anna (Evans) Griffin. Hiram Griffin was reared also in Florida township, this county, and he devoted his life to general farming, mostly in this county, though he spent some years in the state of Iowa, later returning here.

Six children were born to Hiram Griffin and wife, four of whom are living, namely: George W., of this review; Mrs. Gertrude Barnes, Mart and Fred. The parents of the above named children are both deceased.

George W. Griffin was economical when a young man and was thus enabled to buy his present farm when only twenty-two years of age, later adding to his original purchase, making necessary improvements all the while until today he has a productive, well improved and valuable farm of ninety

acres on the Huxford gravel road, about four miles east of the city of Clinton. He has laid by a competency as the years have advanced and when old age arrives he will be able to take life easier. He has a pleasant home in the midst of attractive surroundings.

Mr. Griffin has been twice married, first to Margaret Huxford, who is deceased, and he was subsequently married to Minerva Dyson. He is the father of four children, namely: Charles is at home; Mabel married Irvin Johnson; Elbert and Cecil. Mr. Griffin and family belong to the Christian church and are active in all church affairs.

---

### J. GILBERT GRIFFIN.

The valuable farm of J. Gilbert Griffin, which consists of one hundred and eight acres, well improved and under an excellent state of cultivation, presents to the spectator many aspects of a pleasing nature, for everything is always found to be in proper place and well kept; no careless methods here, everything being under a superb system. Mr. Griffin is therefore deserving to rank among the most progressive of our agriculturists.

The birth of Mr. Griffin occurred on December 28, 1879, on the old Griffin home place, he being a son of George and Margaret (Huxford) Griffin. The father came to Parke county, Indiana, when a child and was reared to manhood in Florida township and educated in the public schools here, and here he devoted his life successfully to general farming. He had but the one child, J. Gilbert, of this sketch.

J. Gilbert Griffin grew to manhood in his native community, assisting his father with the work about the home place when he was a boy, and he received his education in the common schools. In his early career he spent one year in the town of Newport, Parke county, where he engaged in merchandising.

On September 5, 1904, Mr. Griffin was married to Milbrey Johnson, daughter of John and Amanda (Cloyd) Johnson. Her father came from near Atherton, Vigo county, Indiana, and later in life went West and became a prospector. Returning to this country, he became the owner of a fine farm of one hundred and sixty acres, part of which was in Parke and part in Vigo county. His family consisted of seven children, namely: Sarah and Cora are both deceased; Milbrey, wife of Mr. Griffin; Luna, Emeline, Marshall and Carlie are all deceased.

Mr. Griffin carries on general farming and stock raising, always keeping an excellent grade of live stock, which he prepares for the market from

year to year and no small part of his income has been derived from this source. He has a good dwelling, well located on the east side of the Iluxford gravel road, due east of the city of Clinton.

Fraternally, Mr. Griffin belongs to the Knights of Pythias, and in religious matters he is a member of the Christian church.

---

#### DICK MILLER.

The true measure of success is determined by what one has accomplished, and, as taken in contradistinction to the old adage that a prophet is not without honor save in his own country, there is a particular interest attached to the career of Dick Miller, who, while yet young in years, won a brilliant reputation in western Indiana as a lawyer and politician, and who at this writing is a successful business man of Indianapolis. He is a native son of Parke county, where his earlier years were spent and where his family has long been well known and influential. He has so directed his ability and efforts as to gain recognition as one of the most representative citizens and worthy native sons the vicinity of which this volume deals has yet produced, and, judging from his past commendable success in various lines of endeavor, the future must hold for him much of good and promise and his career is worthy of careful consideration by the young man who is hesitating at the parting of the ways, for it shows what one with grit, perseverance, fortitude and high ideals can accomplish, although in the face of obstacles, if one's ambition is worthy and properly directed.

Mr. Miller was born on January 12, 1871, in the southern part of Parke county, Indiana. He is a son of James N. and Sarah (Snow) Miller. The father was born in 1827, and he became a prominent citizen in this locality. Further mention is made of him on other pages of this work.

Dick Miller grew to manhood in his native county and received his primary education in the common schools, later attended the graded schools, then entered the Bloomingdale Academy, from which he was graduated. He then entered the State University at Bloomington and was graduated from there with the class of 1894. He had for some time been studying law, and upon leaving the University he entered the Indiana Law School at Indianapolis, from which he was graduated in 1896, having made a splendid record for scholarship in all the above named institutions. He returned to Parke county and entered politics, making the race for the Legislature, lower house, on the Democratic ticket and was elected in the fall of 1896, having the dis-



tion of being the only Democrat that ever represented this county, with one exception, about eighty years ago, when O. Puett served in that capacity. The subject made an excellent record in the Legislature, winning the hearty approval of all concerned, irrespective of party alignment. In 1897 he moved to Terre Haute and began the practice of law, and he met with a large measure of success, remaining there until 1900, when he made the race for state senator, but was defeated by only three votes. In 1901 he came to Indianapolis and began the business of a bond salesman, and soon had a nice business built up. In January, 1907, he engaged in buying and selling bonds on his own account and is still thus engaged, at No. 23 North Pennsylvania street, also buying and selling securities under the name of Miller & Company. He has now a very extensive and lucrative business.

Mr. Miller has a beautiful home in Indianapolis, presided over with grace and dignity by a lady known in her maidenhood as Catharine Trimble, to whom Mr. Miller was united in marriage on June 28, 1906. She is a native of Hamilton county, Indiana, the representative of an excellent family there. The union of the subject and wife has been without issue.

Fraternally, Mr. Miller belongs to the Knights of Pythias in Indianapolis, also the Masonic order there, embracing the Scottish Rite and the Ancient Arabic Order of Nobles of the Mystic Shrine. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and politically is an uncompromising Democrat and has long been active in the ranks. Personally, he is a genial, obliging and genteel gentleman, whom it is a pleasure to meet.

---

#### M. V. KESSLER.

M. V. Kessler, a farmer of the vicinity of Rosedale, Parke county, is a son of Simeon and Eliza (Rairdon) Kessler. The father was born in Pennsylvania, from which state he came to Ohio when young with his parents and was reared near Cincinnati. He was about thirty-five years old when he came to Indiana, having been educated in the Buckeye state. He first located in Henry county, later coming to Vigo county, about seven years after he first came to this state, and he and his wife spent practically all of the balance of their lives in Vigo county.

M. V. Kessler, of this review, grew to manhood in Vigo county, and there received his education in the common schools. In early life he learned the carpenter's trade, at which he worked for ten years, building houses all over the country. After he had worked for some time at his trade, he purchased some timber and had it made into lard barrel staves, which cleared him eight dollars a day. Thus getting a start, he turned his attention to con-

tracting and followed that for a period of ten years. A number of years ago he purchased one hundred and sixty acres, his first land, which he rented, later adding to his original purchase and subsequently took up farming, which he has continued, for the most part, to the present time, adding to his holdings from time to time until he is now the owner of a good farm in Parke county, lying about twelve miles from Rockville. In connection with general and mixed farming, he raises various grades of live stock.

After engaging in farming for a number of years, Mr. Kessler saw an opportunity to engage in the timber business, and he accordingly launched out in the same in the Yazoo delta, Mississippi, and this has claimed much of his attention for some time.

#### IRA NEWLIN.

The early pioneers of Parke and Vermillion counties have about all "crossed the great divide." Year by year their numbers have continued to diminish, until of the hundreds who settled here in the first quarter of the nineteenth century only a few of them remain. There are, however, many men and women now living in these counties, who, though coming here in what might be termed the second period after the early band of homeseekers from the East cast their lots here, have borne well their parts in making this a prosperous region. Then there are the children of the first settlers, who have spent their lives here. The two last classes named are no less worthy of praise in the part they bore in the labors and privations of this early period than are their progenitors and predecessors. One of the oldest of the native sons of Parke county, one of the best known and one of the most useful, is the venerable farmer and for forty years minister—Ira Newlin, of Penn township, a man whose life has been so noble, clean and upright, as well as charitable, unselfish and helpful that now, in the December of his years, he is held in the highest esteem by all who know him and, looking backward, he has no regrets for misdeeds, and, looking forward, has nothing to fear. He has lived to see the growth of this locality from a primeval forest to one of the choice agricultural sections of the state and has taken an active part in the material, civic and moral advancement of the same. Nearly four score years spent in this vicinity has witnessed remarkable changes and he talks most interestingly of the early days.

Mr. Newlin was born in Penn township, Parke county, Indiana, July 23, 1833. He is the son of Jacob and Sarah (Woody) Newlin, both natives of North Carolina, in which state they spent their earlier years, growing to maturity there. From the old Tar state they emigrated overland, crossing

the rugged Blue Ridge mountains and fording dangerous unbridged streams, finally reaching Parke county, Indiana. This was in 1823 or 1824, and here they began life in typical pioneer' fashion, establishing a log cabin in the dense woods, cleared a space for a garden and a little corn, and as time went on they had a good farm under cultivation and a good home established in Penn township and here they remained, reared their family and passed on to their eternal rest, the father at the early age of forty-six years and the mother when eighty-six years of age, having survived her husband a number of decades. They were both worthy members of the Friends church, and they spent their lives on the farm. They became the parents of seven children, four sons and three daughters, Ira, of this sketch, being the fourth in order of birth.

As before intimated, Ira Newlin has always resided in Penn township, Parke county, having grown to manhood here amid pioneer conditions, and he received such schooling as the old-time schools of that early period afforded. He assisted his father to improve the home place, and his life has been spent in connection with general farming which he has made a success and is now one of the substantial men of his community. In connection with farming and stock raising, he has spent about forty years of his life in preaching in the Friends church, doing a great amount of good in the local congregation, doing much to strengthen it and aiding his people in many ways, all of which has been duly appreciated.

Mr. Newlin was first married in his native township, in 1855, to Mary W. Woodward, a native of Reserve township, Parke county, Indiana. Her death occurred in the fall of 1898. To this marriage four children were born, all of whom are now deceased. Mr. Newlin was later married to Mary J. (Breed) Cook, a native of New Hampshire, where she spent her earlier years. She was eight years old when she accompanied her parents from New England to Parke county, Indiana, and here she grew to womanhood and was educated. She is the daughter of Daniel and Ruth Breed. By her first marriage, with Mahlin Cook, she became the mother of two children, Claude and Charles Cook.

Mr. Newlin has always taken an active part in educational affairs and Penn township is indebted to him for its present excellent educational system, he being known as a public-spirited and valuable citizen in every respect. In the fall of 1908 he was elected trustee of Penn township on the Prohibition ticket and served his community in this capacity in a most able and conscientious manner. He has long been an active worker in the cause of prohibition, and has also been an influential worker in the Friends church since early life.













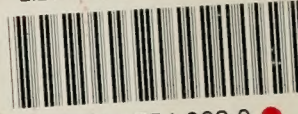








LIBRARY OF CONGRESS



0 014 754 062 0 ●